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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

SEEDS AND GROWTH OF SCIENCE.

History of the Royal Society. With Memoirs of the Presidents. By C. R. Weld, Assistant Secretary and Librarian. 2 vols., 8vo. Parker. 1848.

Report of the Eighteenth Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Swansea, 1848. 8vo. Murray. [Noticed in L. G., No. 1696.]

THE fruits and flowers of Science, as produced and gathered to the latest hour, will have been partly exhibited at the Birmingham meeting of the British Association before this review issues from the press; and tardy as has been our notice of the history of the Royal Society, we cannot think it inappropriate to redeem our negligence at this juncture. But, as confession is said to be good for the soul, we may as well acknowledge our shortcoming in this respect, and state, that it arose in the first instance from an accident, and was afterwards occasioned by a desire (interrupted by the continual influx of novelties) that when justice was at last done to Mr. Weld it should be well-done. Yet here we are, notwithstanding all our good intentions, just where we were at the beginning, and muttering to ourselves,

Chides our infamous delay,

Resolves and re-resolves, then writes the same!

About two hundred years ago the Royal Society was founded by Charles II., of much abused memory; a temporary and abortive attempt to form a somewhat similar institution having been made in the time of Elizabeth, and sunk in the reign of James I. The free towns of Italy, on the revival of learning, had long before taken up the cause of literature, and science, and Mr. Weld gives us a *coup d'œil* over their proceedings, as preliminary to the London establishment. On the illustration of its earliest doings the author has bestowed every requisite labour and research; and informs us that—

"The examination of the Archives, the Journal, Register, and Council books, comprising some hundreds of volumes, with several thousand letters, was a formidable task; but I soon found that the work could not be compiled from these documents alone. It was the custom, in the early days of the Society, for the Secretaries to have the custody of the books and papers, many of which, on their decease, were not returned to the Society by their executors, and have since been presented to the British Museum; a locality, it may be observed, far less appropriate for their preservation than the Royal Society's library, to which, indeed, they in justice belong. Thus several volumes of Hooke's papers are in the National Library, besides letters and other documents written by Oldenburgh, Wallis, Wren, Sloane, &c. To these it became, of course, important to refer; and such use has been made of them as was necessary for the purposes of this work. The State-Paper Office, the Archives of the Lord Chamberlain's Office, and the Bodleian Library, which I also visited, have furnished me with valuable matter.

"From this statement it will be understood that my main object has been to render a faithful account of the rise, progress, and constitution of the Royal Society, and to record its most important proceedings. I need scarcely observe that the work partakes more of a civil, than of a scientific character; and indeed it is my earnest wish that it should be regarded only as a contribution towards some future philosophical history of the Society, which, proceeding from an abler pen than mine, shall at once embrace the entire subject. "Scientific matters, it is true, are occasionally treated of in the present work, but only in an historical light."

Enlarged 194.]

It is nevertheless to the earliest movements in regard to scientific suggestions, inventions, and inquiries or experiments, that we shall request the attention of our readers; for it is upon these points, as compared with the conditions of science at the present day, that we think the principal interest of the publication turns. We see matters thrown on the surface, and bursting

As the snow melts in the river,

A moment white, then gone for ever.

Other things attract consideration for a while, and then drop into utter oblivion. A third class fall into forgetfulness, and after a lapse of years are revived, either as new, or with little reference to their primeval steps. A fourth order are carried on faintly, with glimmerings from century to century. And others, the subjects, perhaps, of scepticism and ridicule in their initiative; or, superseded by circumstances, rise again, sustained by more extraordinary phenomena, and prove to have been the foregoing shadows of wonderful events to come. The merest glance at some of these inchoate proceedings must produce reflections rife with wisdom, and teaching us how to receive pretences which we may not be able to fathom or comprehend: to deride nothing, for the live of honey may be derived from an empty skull; and to question calmly even the apparently most irrational and even supernatural claims to belief. There is indeed more in heaven and earth than can be dreamed of in our philosophy; and therefore it is that our doubts ought to be mingled with our faith, and our incredulity with an openness to conviction. Let us cast a glimpse at some instances which warrant the spirit of these remarks.

Humboldt, in his *Cosmos*, notices that (in 1699)—
"Halley, as soon as he returned from his voyages, hazarded the conjecture that the Aurora Borealis is a magnetic phenomenon. Faraday's brilliant discovery of the evolution of light by magnetism, has raised this hypothesis, enounced in 1714, to the rank of an experimental certainty."

At this period the correspondence of the Royal Society was widely spread and important, and Mr. Weld truly observes:—

"The result of this correspondence is apparent in the large number of communications made to the Society at the ordinary meetings, and recorded in the Journal and Register-books. Several of these are of great interest; and it is not a little curious to trace in them the germ of discoveries in science which, in a more perfected state, have effected such extraordinary changes in the condition of mankind. Of such a nature was Savery's condensing steam-engine, a model of which was exhibited to the Society on the 14th June, 1699. In the Minutes of that date we find, that Mr. Savery entertained the Society with showing his engine to raise water by the force of fire. He was thanked for showing the experiment, which succeeded according to expectation, and was approved of. Savery presented the Society with a drawing of his engine, accompanied by a description, which was printed in the 21st volume of the *Transactions*. At his request, the Society gave him a certificate, that the engine exhibited before them 'succeeded according to expectation, and to their satisfaction.' It will be remembered, that although the Marquis of Worcester undoubtedly invented a steam-engine 'to drive up water by fire,' as specified in his *Century of Inventions*, and which Cosmo de Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany, describes in his *Diary* as having seen in operation at Vauxhall in 1656,* yet we are indebted to Savery for the intro-

* "His Highness, that he might not lose the day uselessly, went again after dinner to the other side of the city, extend-

duction of a vacuum, which enabled his engine to perform double the work of that invented by the Marquis of Worcester.

"The certificate granted to Savery by the Society, was the means of his procuring a patent from the Crown for the manufacture of steam-engines."

And—

"Papin, it is clear, conceived that steam might be employed to propel ships by paddles; for, as early as 1690, in a Paper, published in the *Acta Eruditorum*, he says, 'without doubt, oars, fixed to an axis, could be most conveniently made to revolve by our tubes. It would only be necessary to furnish the piston-rod with teeth, which might act on a toothed wheel properly fitted to it, and which, being fixed on the axis to which the oars were attached, would communicate a rotary motion to it.'

"These communications of Papin anticipate, by several years, the patent taken out by Jonathan Hulls* for the same object."

In a hundred years the waters of the earth are covered with steam-vessels, and the earth itself traversed at a speed inconceivable to the last generation, by thousands of conveyances, propelled along her iron-made ribs by the powers of steam!

And then we have electricity; to speak of which now is to speak of human thought conveyed by lightning—of Heaven's flash made obedient to the will of man. The almost puerile beginnings of the investigation of this marvellous agent, till Priestly, Franklin, and others arose to ascertain its nature, and give it direction, (as Watts and Fulton did to steam), are lessons to warn us for ever against dogmatic self-sufficiency. The anatomy of the globe may, for aught we can tell, be as well ascertained in fifty years as the anatomy of an animal; and our successors may be able to trace its geological bones to the demonstration of truths as yet in darkness, and the influence of its magnetic life or soul, such as even a Sabine, a Faraday, or a Grove have not imagined to be within the bounds of the possible.

Thus we have the progress of sciences and improvements, some slowly and some rapidly developed. We are illuminated with gas, which a hundred years ago a Tyne collier produced from an old teakettle filled with small coals, set on the fire, and lighted at the spout.

The transfusion of the blood of men into men, animals into animals, and animals into men, which created so immense a sensation in the Royal Society, and Europe, a century and a half ago, till prohibited as dangerous, and even murderous, has been reproduced in our time.

Healing by sympathy has yielded to healing by homeopathy or Mesmerism, and chloroform and clairvoyance far outstrip the feats of ancient quackery and witchcraft. The clairvoyant surpasses in powers Mother Redcap, Mother Jordan, or the most famous of the Motherhood, for they had to be furnished by Satan with brooms, and material substances for their excursions, whereas the clairvoyant needs no supernatural aid, but sends her soul out on the trip, and carries on a correspondence to which the illiterate

ing his excursion as far as Whitehall beyond the Palace of the Archbishop of Canterbury, to see an hydraulic machine, invented by my Lord Somerset, Marquis of Worcester. It raises water more than forty geometrical feet by the power of one man only; and in a very short space of time will draw up four vessels of water through a tube or channel not more than a span in width; on which account it is considered to be of greater service to the public than the other machine near Somerset-house."

* "Hulls took out a patent in 1736, for 'carrying vessels and ships out of, and into, any harbour, port, or river, against wind and tide, or in a calm.' They were to be towed by a steam-boat furnished with a pair of wheels."

tribe of witches, warlocks, wizards, and all the other double U's never could aspire. Traversing the air in balloons may be incidentally noticed as very likely to become amenable to control.

An eclipse of the sun was wont to affright mankind, and now Fox Talbot has made that luminary a drawing-master and portrait-painter, and Claudet compels him to stand still daily, more particularly than ever Joshua did. It is well for these individuals that they do not visit Persia, where the followers of Zoroaster would doubtless consume them for their sacrilege.

In weather-wisdom—Dr. Moore and Murphy apart—we do not seem to have made much progress.

“Sir Kenelm Digby related that ‘Dr. Dee, by a diligent observation of the weather for seven years together, acquired such a prognosticating skill of weather, that he was on that account accounted a witch.’

In other matters, the title to this paper seems singularly just. Mechanics’ Institutes are no original inventions of our time,—

“In a curious letter from Hartlib to Boyle, dated Amsterdam, May 18, 1649, and preserved in the archives of the Society, is the following Memorandum:—‘Fauxhall is to be sett apart for publick uses, by which is meant making it a place of resort for artists, mechanics, &c., and a dépôt for models and philosophical apparatus.’ It is further proposed, that ‘experiments and trials of profitable inventions should be carried on,’ which, says the writer, ‘will be of great use to the Commonwealth.’

“Hartlib adds, that the late King (Charles I.) ‘designed Fauxhall for such an use.’

“In another letter to Boyle, dated May 1654, Hartlib says, ‘The Earl of Worcester is buying Fauxhall from Mr. Trenchard, to bestow the use of that house upon Gaspar Calehof and his son, as long as they shall live, for he intends to make it a College of Artisans. Yesterday,’ he adds, ‘I was invited by the famous Thomas Busliel to Lambeth Marsh, to see part of that foundation.’

“The attention of Parliament was called to the state of learning at this period, as appears from the Journals of the House of Commons, which record that on the 20th July, 1653, a committee was appointed ‘for the advancement of learning,’ which consisted of eighteen members. They met in the Duchy Chamber, but did not present any Report.”

So that even the Library Committee Report in our last Gazette is but the resurrection of an idea recommended to be adopted two hundred years ago!

In 1608 (and before) the *Phonetic Nuz* was

* “The establishment of a large public Library in St. James’s Park was also thought of.”

† In an old number of the *Star* newspaper (Saturday, February 11, 1792) is the following advertisement:—

“This Day was published,

(With a Preface, ascertaining the Orthography)

FORTY YEARS’ CORRESPONDENCE, between Geniuses on both Sexes, and JAMES ELPHINSTON; in Six Pocket-Volumes: Four or Original Letters, Two of Poetry.

—Hoc est

Vivere bis, vita posse priore frui.

MART.

—Si quid novisti rectius istis,

Candidus imperti; si non, his utere mecum.

HON.

Hail, happy Art! or living Life whence more;

And on enjoying Years, enjoy’d before.

Superior if dry Store, impart benign;

If not, improv it; by partaking mine.

Sold (for won Guinea sowed) by W. Richardson, Royal Exchange; J. Deighton, N. 325, Holborn; and W. Clark, N. 38, Bond-street.

The Originals to J. E. may be seen in his hands, at N. 4, Colebrook-row, Islington; as well as his own preserved Copies: both sides, alike obviously unintended for the Press.

At the same places, (price Three Shillings and Sixpence in boards) ENGLISH ORTHOGRAPHY epitomized, and Propriety’s Pocket-Dictionary; containing the English Roots arranged and defined; with the System of forming and interpreting the Branches and the Compounds; the first constituting a Digest of English Diction, adapted, as to Roots, to every Stranger.

By JAMES ELPHINSTON.

Where any still be had, Propriety ascertained in her Picture, Four Volumes Quarto; and where each Subscriber, to the great Work, may claim a Copy of the Minniature.”

anticipated (see Dr. Wilkins’ Essay); a few years earlier, balloting was introduced into England, and had its partizans and opponents as now; and curing by mesmeric passes (as well as the royal touch) was asserted to be no superstition. Valentine Greatrix, surnamed the Stroker, was a great proficient and master of the art.

“Flamsteed went to Ireland for the purpose of being touched by Greatrix. In his *Autobiography* he says, ‘I was stroked by him all over my body, but found as yet no amends in anything, but what I had before.’

“There is a letter in the archives of the Society, from Greatrix to the Archbishop of Dublin, in which he thus describes the circumstances that led him to undertake curing by touch: ‘I was moved by an impulse, which, sleeping or waking, in public or private, always dictated: I have given thee the gift of curing the King’s evil. At first I wondered within myself what the meaning thereof should be, and was silent: at length, I told my wife thereof, and that I did verily believe that God had given me the power of curing the evil. She little regarded what I said, telling me only I had conceived a rich fancy. Soon after, such was the providence of God, one William Maher, of the Parish of Lismore, brought his son that had the evil in several places very grievous, and desired to know if I would cure him. Whereupon I went to my wife and told her she should now see whether my belief was a fancy or no, whereupon I put my hands on young Maher, desiring the help of the Lord Jesus, for his mercies’ sake, whereupon the evil, which was as hard as possible for flesh and blood to be, dissolved and rotted within forty-four hours, run and healed, and so through God’s mercy continues to this day.’ At first Greatrix merely touched the parts affected; but afterwards he made ‘passes,’ or stroked the limbs of his patients, which led to his being called ‘Greatrix the stroker.’

“We may appropriately add here, that the last person of note operated on in this way was Dr. Johnson; he was touched by Queen Anne in 1712.”

Well does our author observe,—

“Let not the reader, therefore, when he smiles, as he assuredly will, at many of the seemingly absurd and ridiculous experiments tried by the Society, which he will find in the following pages, criticise them as mere folly, or the performances of empirics;—they were necessary to the welfare of science,—as much so as it is important to clear away a rotten foundation, ere a solid superstructure can be reared; and it will be seen, how year after year errors were blotted out, and new facts and truths developed.”

To resume a little of the History of the Society: Sprat, Birch, and Thomson preceded Mr. Weld, and Sir John Hill wrote a caricature account of it. Sir Robert Moray was its sole President till it was incorporated, and for some time afterwards; and as future presidents and distinguished members, the list is adorned with the names of Boyle, Ray, Newton, Halley, Hooke, Wren, Flamsteed, Sloane, Bradley, &c., to celebrated persons nearer our own era. Of these Mr. Weld’s biographical sketches are interesting additions to his general design. One of the early entries in the Register demands quotation, as an example worthy of all following, and not inapplicable occasionally, even now, when the toes of the middle classes tread so hard upon the heels of the aristocracy:—

“Dr. Sprat, in his *History*, alludes to Mr. Graunt as having been recommended to the Society by the King. ‘In whose election,’ says he, ‘it was so far from being a prejudice that he was a shopkeeper of London, that his Majesty gave this particular charge to his Society, that if they found any more such tradesmen, they should be sure to admit them all, without any more ado.’ Graunt’s dedication is very curious; he styles the Royal Society ‘the King’s Privy Council for Philosophy, and his great Council for the three Estates of Mathematics, Mechanics, and

Physics.’” [The book was on the Bills of Mortality.]

Another marked event is thus mentioned:—

“On the 2nd Jan. 1666-7, Mr. Henry Howard presented the Society with ‘the Library of Arundel House, to dispose thereof as their property, desiring only that in case the Society should come to fail, it might return to Arundel House; and that this inscription, *Ex dono Henrici Howard Norfolciensis*, might be put upon every book given them. The Society,’ it is added, ‘received this noble donation with all thankfulness, and ordered that Mr. Howard should be registered as a benefactor.’

“This gift may be regarded as the nucleus of the Society’s valuable library. The history of the Arundel Library is interesting.—It formed originally a portion of the collection of Matthias Corvinus, King of Hungary, and after his death came into the possession of the celebrated Bilibaldus Pirckheimerus of Nuremberg, who died in 1530. It was purchased by Mr. Howard’s grandfather, Thomas, Earl of Arundel, during his embassy at Vienna; and it consisted of a great number of printed books and many rare and valuable manuscripts. Maitland, describing the Arundel portion of the Library of the Royal Society, informs us, that ‘this fine collection consists of 3267 printed books, in most languages and all faculties; and are chiefly the first editions of books, soon after the invention of printing. And the valuable and choice collection of Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Turkish, and other rare manuscripts, consists of 544 volumes; which, together with the former, are thought to be of such value as cannot be paralleled for the smallness of their number.’

The poverty of the Society, and its struggles for a number of years, are often adverted to, and also the defalcations in the subscriptions, the poverty of some of its eminent members (Newton petitioning to be excused his shilling per week), and the formation of the Philosophical Club out of its body, with the prices of their dinners, wines, &c., from time to time, till the former reached from eightpence to ten shillings, are all curious pieces of information, but our limits warn us to “cut it short,” with a very few farther extracts, which bear upon modern affairs. We must first, however, copy some of the brief oddities.

Memoranda,—

“That adders be provided to try the experiment of the stone.

“April 3. Dr. Petty was intreated to inquire in Ireland for the petrification of wood, the barnacles, the variation of the compass, and the ebbing and flowing of a brook. * * *

“Sir Robert Moray was desired to write to the Jesuits at Liege about the making of coppers there.

“Dr. Clarke was intreated to lay before the Society Mr. Pellin’s relation of the production of young vipers from the powder of the liver and lungs of vipers. * * *

“The Amanuensis was ordered to go to-morrow to Rosemary-lane, to bespeak two or three hundred more of the solid glasse balls.”

[The Rupert’s drops, the resuscitation and description of which appeared in recent *Literary Gazettes*.]

“Dr. Charleton promised to bring in that white powder, which, put into water, heates it.

“The Duke of Buckingham promised to cause charcoal to be distill’d by his chymist.

“His Grace promised to bring into the Society a piece of a unicorn’s horn.

“Sir Kenelm Digby related that the calcined powder of toades reverberated, applied in bagges upon the stomach of a pestiferate body, cures it by several applications.

“June 13. Col. Tuke brought in the history of the rained seeds which were reported to have fallen downe from heaven in Warwickshire and Shropshire, &c.* * *

+ “The supposed grains of wheat turned out, after due examination, to be the seeds of ivy berries, deposited by Starlings; thus one popular superstition was destroyed.”



"July 17. The King having desired to know why the humble and sensitive plant stirs, or draws back, at the touching of it, a committee was appointed to report upon the fact. * * *

"At the next Meeting:—July 24. 'A circle was made with powder of unicorn's horn, and a spider set in the middle of it, but it immediately ran out several times repeated. The spider once made some stay upon the powder.'"

The Great Plague and the Fire of London made epochs of much disturbance, but yet of great interest to the Society, and in some notices of the former we seem to have antetypes of the Cholera of this day, and the opinions upon it.

"During this melancholy period the seventh and eighth numbers of the *Philosophical Transactions* were printed at Oxford, in consequence of the impossibility of finding printers in London to execute the work. Hooke remained in London until the 15th July, when he accompanied Sir William Petty and Dr. Wilkins to Durdens, the seat of Lord Berkeley, near Epsom, where several experiments were made. Previous to his departure, he addressed a letter to Boyle, in which he communicated his ideas of the cause and nature of the plague. 'I cannot,' he says, 'from any information I can learn of it, judge what its cause should be; but it seems to proceed only from infection or contagion, and that not caught but by some near approach to some infected person or stuff. Nor can I at all imagine it to be in the air, though yet there is one thing, which is very different to what is usual in other hot summers, and that is a very great scarcity of flies and insects. I know not whether it be universal, but it is here at London most manifest.'"

Has this, or aught resembling it, been observed during the last three months? But another entry:—

"On the 14th March, 1665—6, after an interruption of more than eight months, the weekly meetings were resumed, and numerous investigations made respecting the late plague: the Masters of the Pest-house promising to send in their observations on it, at the request of Dr. Charlton. The latter related at the Meeting on the 21st March, that the notion concerning the vermination of the air as the cause of the plague, first started in England by Sir George Ent, and afterwards managed in Italy by Father Kircher, was so much farther advanced there, that by the relation of Dr. Bacon, who had long practised physic at Rome, it had been observed there that there was a kind of insect in the air, which being put upon a man's hand, would lay eggs hardly discernible without a microscope; which eggs being for an experiment given to be snuffed up by a dog, the dog fell into a distemper, accompanied with all the symptoms of the plague."

The significance of these hints needs no comment at this crisis, and with them we close our retrospect, confined, as we indicated, to the more ancient doings of the Society, and stopping short exactly a century ago, when Lord Macclesfield was elected President, and the Society of Arts was established. From the time of George III., who gave it effectual aid, the Society flourished, and grew rich; and yet abuses crept in which were not remedied till the very recent reforms, all of which, and their results, we have faithfully chronicled. To Mr. Weld the Public and Science are much indebted for his work, and we hope he will accept our tardy tribute as equal to some of the revivals of interest we have noticed in valuable productions brought forward, and for a season neglected, as appears in the archives of his subject.

HOWARD THE PHILANTHROPIST.

John Howard, and the *Prison-World of Europe*. From Original and Authentic Documents. By Hepworth Dixon. Jackson and Walford.

SHAKSPEARE tells us that to gild refined gold, or paint the lily, or throw a perfume over the violet, is wasteful and ridiculous excess; and so is the language in which Mr. Dixon has clothed his hyperboles upon the great and virtuous Howard. To describe the acts and life of such a man, so unequalled a philanthropist and benefactor of the human species, the

utmost simplicity of style would be pointed out alike by congenial feeling and good taste; but our author has fallen into the opposite extreme, and spoiled the natural portrait of a truly illustrious character by daubing it all over, as if it required the utmost efforts of bad art to foist it upon the public. This is a radical mistake, and to our judgment the less elaborated *Life* by Dr. Aikin, or the *Memoirs* by Baldwin Brown, though Mr. Dixon condemns the one as "a mere Essay written in haste," and the other as "insufferably dull," do not deserve to be superseded by the new attempt, even with its "original and authentic documents,"—the only matter of interest in this way, after all the boast, being "a manuscript, throwing light on the early history of prison reforms in this country, found in the archives of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge."

Armed with this document, and a few minor particulars wrought out of collation and inquiries of persons who have preserved oral traditions, Mr. Dixon says:—

"The material for Howard's *Life* is therefore now fully collected; whether it is herein finally used, will entirely depend upon the verdict of the reader."

His process of finally (?) using them is not, we fear, likely to obtain a unanimously favourable verdict, for he tells us that, "after making himself master of all the mere facts of the case which have come down to us, biographically and traditionally, his plan was to saturate himself with Howardian ideas," [what this means we cannot exactly understand, nor the sequel,] "and then strive to reproduce them living, acting, and suffering in the real world."

What "Howardian ideas" are may be undefinable, but we cannot, as the Yankees say, *realize any ideas* whatever reproduced "living, acting, and suffering in the real world!" But this is the style throughout, which, coupled with a dreamy affectation of the humanity-mongering cant of the day, and the most illogical reasoning, renders every essential part of the personal biography jejune and bombastic. How insignificant things are magnified!

"Dr. Aikin, one of Howard's most intimate friends, believes he was born at Enfield; the Rev. Mr. Palmer, another of his most valued friends, says he was born at Clapton. There was at one time a general impression that Cardington, his favourite residence in later life, was also the place of his birth; and, after all, it is not unlikely that he was born at his father's usual residence in Smithfield:—thus we have four years and four localities in competition. In the absence of the original baptismal register, one would vainly endeavour to reconcile, or to arbitrate between, these conflicting accounts. Nor is it needful. Less, perhaps, than any other English worthy does Howard need to be localized. He belonged to no sect exclusively—to no district. No petty parish can hope to monopolize his fame—to trade upon the sanctity of his virtues. His glories, like his exertions, are circumscribed by no cantonal bounds; the power of his name and the light of his example are the common heirlooms of mankind."

"John Howard, the father, was a merchant of the city of London,—and seems to have been the architect of his own fortunes. Of the ascent in the genealogical series, nothing higher than this can now be traced. Howard sprang from a virgin and undistinguished soil—as exceptional greatness in all ages has done—with as little flourish as attends the growth of the self-sown oaks and pines of the forest. Attempts, however, have not been wanting to vulgarize his origin—to rob his greatness of its most natural charm—by circling his brows with the distant glitter of a ducal crown; by finding in his simple lineaments the trace of noble lines, and in his veins the consecrated currents of patrician blood. More than one writer has laboured to establish a real, as well as a nominal, relationship between the family of the philanthropist and the princely house of Norfolk; but the evidence adduced in support of such a theory will not bear a moment's investigation."

"No—let Howard stand alone. His reputation rests upon a basis already broad enough. Why should

we pile up Pelion on Olympus? The purple would add nothing to his dignity. Worthily worn, the toga is not less honourable than the imperial robe."

And all the rest of the *ignotum* is treated in a similar way:—

"A mystery hangs over the birth of Howard. Neither the place nor the date of the important event is known. No particular day is marked off in the calendar of the year—no romantic Stratford-upon-Avon is made sacred to all time by his nativity. Guesses, it is true, have been made at time and site, and dogmatism has done its best to render all uncertain as to both."

"Little is remembered of his childhood. None of those startling stories to which the early years of extraordinary men usually give rise are told of his. No one read the signs of genius in his sickly silent face; and no one ventured to predict an eminent career for him in after life. But every one who knew him loved him. His gentle manners, his modesty, his self-sacrificing spirit endeared him to every heart; but this was a sort of love nearly allied to pity—no one feared, no one admired him. As a child, he passed unnoticed, just as the majority of dull and undemonstrative urchins do, except when some quixotic piece of benevolence marked him out for observation. This notice was, however, casual, and only for the moment. Moral eccentricities in children are seldom so attractive, seldom arrest so much attention as intellectual precocity. Is not the world unwise in making such distinction? A large moral nature is of far more importance to the happiness and good of mankind than a great intellect; but, unfortunately, in one sense, it is intellect which wields all the powers of the world—which makes all the laws, fashions all the forms—and of course it adjudicates all the prizes in its own favour. The quiet, patient child, which bears injuries with meekness and fortitude, attracts no attention, wins no applause; the forward urchin, glib of tongue and impatient of restraint, who speaks bold words with the assurance of an oracle, is courted with caresses, fêted, flattered, and pronounced a prodigy."

To us this appears to be trashy writing, and as we proceed we shall find much more of it. The incidents of Howard's career are too well known to tempt us into re-copying them, or their dates. He was born about 1725-6—was a sickly child, lost his mother in infancy, had a strict money-making Calvinistic father, was partially and indifferently educated, then bound apprentice to a wholesale grocer, and at the age of eighteen relieved from his indentures by the death of his parent, who left him heir to a considerable independent fortune. He travelled on the continent, chiefly in Italy, returned home, set off again, was taken by a French privateer, and imprisoned in France, where the severities he saw, and to a certain extent endured, gave him that turn which led to his matchless zeal and perseverance for the reform of prisons and better government of prisoners. Before, however, touching on any of the events comprised within this summary, or other affairs, such as his marriages, &c. &c., we shall revert to the document found in the archives of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and thus described:—

"While rummaging the archives of the Society, the Secretary, the Rev. T. Boyle Murray, unexpectedly turned up some old MSS., which, on examination, proved to be minutes and other records of the Society in the time of William III. and Queen Anne. From these it would appear that the disorders of Newgate were so great at that time as to attract public attention, and induce the Society to try some means of removing the more open and radical abuses. With this design, a committee was nominated on the 12th of January, 1701-2, to visit that and other goals. In a few days, Dr. Bray, who was at the head of the inspection, reported that they had visited Newgate, talked with the poor wretches in their cells, and distributed certain monies amongst them. The same committee afterwards visited the Marshalsea and other prisons—with regard to all of which they rendered the most deplorable accounts. The council of the venerable Society appears to have requested

Dr. Bray to put the result of his observations and suggestions into a concise form, that philanthropy might be directed to the most useful reforms. With this request the doctor complied, and made a brief but lucid report. This curious and important historical document has also been found in the Society's archives. It has never been printed; and as it is the earliest document of any value connected with penology in England, which we possess—throwing light not only on the state of the gaols a hundred and fifty years ago, but also on the state of public knowledge on the subject,—it would be unpardonable not to give it in its own quaint terms. It bears no date,—but we know from other papers in the Society's possession that it was written in the year 1701-2.*

It is no doubt a remarkable document, but, occupying eight or ten pages, we can only quote a few passages:—

"The vices and immoralities of prisons appear to be these following:—

1. The personal lewdness of the keepers and under-officers themselves, who often make it their business to corrupt the prisoners, especially the women.

2. Their confederacy with prisoners in their vices, allowing the men to keep company with the women for money.

3. The unlimited use of wine, brandy, and other strong liquors, even by condemned malefactors.

4. Swearing, cursing, blasphemy, and gaming.

5. Old criminals corrupting new comers.

6. Neglect of all religious worship."

For these evils remedies are proposed, and among the rest, appointing a committee of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, &c.:—

"This committee to have power to license all ale-houses and taverns adjoining to each prison, and they to be in the power of this committee and visitors, and other power as shall be thought convenient.

"That officers who are notoriously lewd and vicious, and have bought their places, may be obliged by y^e committee to sell their places at such a value as the committee shall think reasonable, and to such persons as shall be approved of by the committee for their good conversation.

"That there be a short preface or postscript, setting forth the good designed to their souls by these orders; and passionately exhorting the better sort to join their endeavours for promoting this good work.

"That if possible provision may be made to keep every prisoner in distinct cells, as is practised in Bethlehem Hospital.* But till that be done, that the women be strictly kept in separate apartments by themselves, and a severe penalty be laid on any officer that shall permit a man to converse with a woman, except it be his own wife.

"There is an unlimited use of wine, brandy, and other strong liquors in all prisons, and sold there, to the extraordinary profit of the keepers. And neither prisoner nor such as come to visit him shall be civilly used except they call for great quantities of liquor. Nay, condemned criminals go often intoxicated to execution.

"To prevent which, I conceive that no wine or strong liquors ought to be sold in any prison, nor fetched from abroad, unless in cases of necessity, and that with the leave of one or more of the committee.

"That some mark of commendation be set to their names who shall be of good behaviour during their confinement, in which degrees may be shown as they shall be more exemplary or useful towards reforming others.†

"Corporal punishments may be y^e stocks for y^e under officers. To stubborn, profane criminals, a confinement to so many meals of bread and water, or perhaps more weight of chains, or turning over to the common side, as is usual with the gaoler to inflict

where money is not given to buy them off, or, in some cases, a public severe whipping before execution, which may be more frightful to some than death.*

"That when such persons be released out of Newgate, they may be sent to public workhouses, and so distributed amongst others, that an eye shall be always had to them, and not to be released from thence but upon sufficient security given and evidence made that they are entering upon an honest employment. Nor after their release suffered to depart from their abodes without security for their good behaviour, and taking to some business that may maintain them.

"For the encouragement of those who have lived regularly during their confinement, and give good hopes of their living honestly, that all good people may be advertised of their abodes and professions by some public notice in the sessions paper, and exhorted to help them in getting a livelihood in their trades, that they not return to their old courses."†

Upon the state of prisons here exposed, our author proceeds to comment:—

"How delighted Howard would have been to have known this document! Its facts and suggestions would have greatly facilitated some of his operations, and a knowledge of them would have considerably smoothed his earlier path in benevolence. After the glimpse thus obtained into the prison world, darkness again falls upon the scene. A quarter of a century elapses ere the curtain is withdrawn anew. During this period all that was bad went rapidly worse; prisons became perfect pandemonia. Criminals and their keepers alike gave way to the worst excesses—unrestrained by any sense of justice, or even by any fear of the law. The prison was gradually withdrawn from the pale of the constitution. Gaolers constantly and openly set the courts of law at defiance. When the malice or cupidity of a governor or warder was excited, it was no uncommon thing for him—illegally, and on his own responsibility, it is true, but, as the sequel usually proved, with perfect impunity,—to rob, torture, or even murder his unfortunate victim. And this too in the age of Pope and Swift—in the so-called Augustan period of English letters!"

What Pope or Swift had to do with it transcends our comprehension; but perhaps Mr. Dixon entertains some notion that the noblest poetic study of mankind ought to have been pursued in Newgate, and that a prison cell would supply the best materials for another *Tale of a Tub*.

The next legislative inquiry, in 1728, showed that nothing had been mended within the five-and-twenty years:—

"The earliest stage of the investigation brought to the knowledge of the committee such a mass of corruption in the management of prisons,—such flagrant instances of tyrannous illegality on the part of their officers,—such a wholesale and organized system of plunder, peculation, and deceit,—cases of such daring violations of rule and justice in the infliction of punishments, in some of which the thumb-screw and other instruments of torture, quite unknown to the genius and practice of English penal law, had been used,—that they hastened to lay the facts before the House, in order that the delinquents who had so notoriously abused their powers might be brought to justice without delay. When the first part of their report was made in Parliament, the feelings of surprise and disgust which the horrible disclosures excited were such that the House at once ordered the arrest of the warders, tipstiffs, and other officers of the gaols reported upon, and passed a strong resolution, praying his Majesty to cause his Attorney-General, without delay, and in the most effectual manner, to prosecute them for the high crimes and misdemeanours with which they stood charged.

"The committee then continued its inquiries, and, from time to time, printed fresh reports. The public were at that time comparatively callous to such revelations—the preacher of the new social doctrine,

that society has duties even in relation to the inmate of a debtor's or a felon's cell, lay as yet at Cardington in his unconscious cradle,—but they nevertheless produced a shock of pain and indignation in every generous mind, the effect of which did not easily wear away, and would not be entirely lost upon the infant philanthropist."

Mr. Dixon cites instances of the enormities brought to light, and almost too horrible for belief. In one case a prisoner for debt (in 1726) appears to have been literally tortured to death by the keepers:—

"One afternoon, as he was standing quietly in the yard with his irons on, some of the said Acton's men [Acton was a butcher and lessee of the prison] called him into the lodge, where Acton was then drinking and merry with company. In about half an hour Bliss came out again, crying, and gave an account,—That when he was in the lodge, they, for their diversion, (as they called it,) fixed on his head an iron engine or instrument, (which appears to be an iron skull-cap,) which was screwed so close, that it forced the blood out of his ears and nose. And he further declared,—That his thumbs were at the same time put into a pair of thumb-screws, which were screwed so tight that the blood started out of them; and from that time he continued disordered until the day of his death. He was let out of prison without paying his debt, and at his going out, Acton desired,—That all that was past might be forgot, and that he would not bear him any ill-will. This miserable wretch was put into St. Thomas's Hospital for help—but died very soon. What succeeds is still more horrible:—The various tortures and cruelties before mentioned not contenting these wicked keepers in their pretended magistracy over the prisoners, they found a way of making within this prison a confinement more dreadful than the strong-room itself, by coupling the living with the dead; and have made a practice of locking up debtors who displeased them in the yard with human carcasses. One particular instance of this sort of inhumanity was of a person whom the keepers confined in that part of the lower yard which was then separated from the rest, whilst there were there two dead bodies which had lain there for days; yet was he kept there with them six days longer, in which time the vermin devoured the flesh from their faces, eat the eyes out of the heads of the carcasses, which were bloated, putrid, and turned green during the poor debtor's dismal confinement with them."

The moral tortures of debtors, their privations and punishments when incarcerated (far more severe than those imposed on criminals) to satisfy private revenge and not public justice, is still a perpetuation of the same principle derived from barbarous ages, and enshrined in the mammon-worship of greedy Trade, the more vindictive as it is itself the more imposing and fraudulent. Howard was destined to bring charity and pity among these hapless victims. It was a blessed work of love; what that it had been described without the deformity of overloading and grandiloquence. We have mentioned the contumelious manner in which Mr. Dixon treats the publication of Dr. Aikin, and elsewhere he uses the worthy and respectable Doctor, who is still living to refute him by a long and venerable career, still more offensively. He says—

"Howard was furnishing his mind with a thorough knowledge of the living world,—with what Dr. Aikin, in the tone of a true pedagogue, styles 'common affairs,'—that is, with the relations of men and countries, their resources and habits, their buying and selling, their dependence and connexions. This course of study pursued in the mart may seem very absurd to men of small minds like Dr. Aikin."

And to this personal insult is added a sample of the illogical strictures to which the writer is addicted. "But," he says, "the statesman and the political philosopher knows better: rulers have long ceased to look upon traders with the contempt which arises only from ignorance. Formerly when a knotty point of polity had to be untied, recourse was had to the schools—but ministers of state have now begun to refer their difficulties to the counting-house. This

* First suggestion of the separate system.—Ed. L. G.

† First suggestion of Capt. McConochie's system.—Ed. L. G.

* A horrid idea.—Ed. L. G.

† Only now endeavoured to be carried into practice.—Ed. L. G.

fact is very significant of the change which is passing over our life-dream."

This being the case, he goes on to justify the converse, and show why the counting-house should *not* have been the oracle contended for in these days; for—

"It must be recollected, that the elder Howard possessed little of the mental flexibility which induces ordinary men to assume with readiness the current opinions of their time—and he would not therefore be expected to take a common-place view of his duty. He had been himself a merchant, and he entertained a merchant's ideas of the honour and importance of his calling. He was a little imperious and patriarchal too in his way—was a firm stickler for unconditional compliance with his wishes—governed his family with paternal severity—and was altogether remarkable for the lofty way in which he kept his household in order. He also was a character. Not a little of the eccentricity of thought, the directness of purpose, the devotion to a sense of duty, which his illustrious son exhibited in the course of his subsequent career, were also displayed by him on that narrower stage on which he had been called to play his part. Stern, methodical, industrious, himself—having a natural or habitual love of commerce,—and conscious of the value of a full and absorbing occupation, as an antidote to the rash impulses of youthful passions, as well as of the knowledge and experience which only actual dealings with men can bestow, there is little to cause surprise in the decision of the good old Puritan."

And our author breaks forth into episodical generalizations. He pronounces that—

"As the education of the higher orders in this country is now conducted, the virtues which arise from a confidence in powers of self-sustenance have no room for growth. All are taught to rely on something alien—on property. How many find it only a broken reed! How much of the suffering of noble exiles in this and other countries in modern times, springs only from their inability to do anything, except brood over their wrongs, repine at their misfortunes, and wait for the hand of charity to succour them! A false and foolish notion—the last shred of a barbarian code of honour—lies at the root of this evil. Labour is thought beneath the dignity of noble fingers. Vulgar and fatal mistake! Nobler deed—nobler deed. The world needs very much to come to some sounder thinking on this point. The elder Howard happened to be before his age in this respect—and so his son was formally bound as an apprentice to the grocers of Walling-street."

"Argal," as the sententious Gravedigger in Hamlet has it, the heir to an earldom ought to be bound apprentice to a grocer—a green-grocer for preference—and learn legislative wisdom from a sugar barrel or sack of potatoes, and acquire the principles and duties which his station as a peer and vast landed proprietor will demand of him, from coffee and sago, bills of lading, and weighing out pounds of cocoa and ounces of tea; or, if in the green line, studying Corent Garden accounts of prices, and retailing bunches of turnips and salads at a profit. How preposterous as well as contradictory are such arguments in the face of the common sense which dictates that every one should be trained and educated for the sphere of life he is called upon to fill, and that it would be as absurd to teach a country squire the trade of a tinker to enable him to mend pots and pans, as it would be to teach the tinker algebra and fluxions for the same office. And yet, with all the eulogy on the advantages arising out of Howard's grocery experiences during five years, we are naively informed that "he appears to have entered upon this service entirely from a sentiment of duty. From first to last, his heart was not in his work; and it is evident that he failed to contract any of those sordid habits which are vulgarly attributed to trade and traders. He certainly never learned to love money; nor to respect those who possessed it—on the mere score of its possession. No evil, so far as appears, flowed from this choice of a profession; or from his mixing in the curious scenes to which it must necessarily have introduced him."

Truly no great attainment. Five precious years lost in incongenial employment, and all that was learnt the problematical assertion, that it was to love labour in the abstract, or simply for its own sake—the most useless, as we should imagine, of all human accomplishments!

But we are not inclined to comment more upon such a performance, and will rather endeavour to amuse the reader with some bits of Mr. Dixon's pictures of Howard's marriages. In the first instance, he had been tenderly nursed during a severe illness, by an invalid widow lady with whom he lodged, and who was considerably older than himself. This conduct inspired the convalescent with the grateful, if not the warm or amative passion, and as he could not, we are told, devise any other means of rewarding his nurse, he resolved to bestow his sickness upon her, and marry her!

"He was then five-and-twenty, in the very blossom of his strange youth. Mrs. Loidore was an ordinary-looking woman of fifty-two,—the widow of a man who, while living, had been clerk in a neighbouring white-lead manufactory. She had no wealth to tempt, no beauty to attract admirers; and, moreover, she was so confirmed an invalid, that for more than twenty years she had not known the blessing of a single day's uninterrupted health."

"When the danger had entirely passed away, and his health was restored to its accustomed state, he offered her as the only fitting reward of her services—a toy? an ornament? a purse? a house? an estate? or any of those munificent gifts with which wealthy and generous convalescents reward their favourite attendants? No. He offered her his hand, his name, his fortune! Of course the good lady was astonished at the portentous shape of her patient's gratitude. She started objections, being older and having more worldly prudence than her lover. It is even said that she seriously refused her consent to the match, urging the various arguments which might fairly be alleged against it,—the inequality in the years, fortune, social position of the parties, and so forth—but all to no purpose. Howard's mind was made up. During his slow recovery he had weighed the matter carefully—had come to the conclusion that it was his duty to marry her, and nothing could now change his determination. The struggle between the two must have been extremely curious: the sense of duty, on both sides,—founded upon honest convictions, no doubt,—the mutual respect, without the consuming fire,—the cool and logical weighing of arguments, in place of the rapid pleadings of triumphant passion; the young man, without the ordinary inspirations of youth, on the one hand; the widow, past her prime, yet simple, undesigning, unambitious, earnestly struggling to reject and put aside youth—wealth—protection—honour—social rank—the very things for which women are taught to dress, to pose, to intrigue, almost to circumvent Heaven, on the other,—form together a picture which has its romantic interest, in spite of the incongruity of the main idea. Humble life is not without its heroic acts. Cæsar refusing the Roman crown,—even had he been really serious and without afterthought in its rejection,—is a paltry piece of magnanimity compared with Mrs. Loidore's refusal of the hand of Howard."

It is the most laughable heroic romance we ever read; but Howard beat Cæsar, for "at length her resistance was overcome by the indomitable will of her suitor."

"After allowing her four-and-twenty hours for a final reply, his eloquence surmounted all her objections, and she consented to a union wherein gratitude was to supply the deficiencies of passion."

She (being above fifty years of age) surrendered at discretion, or indiscretion:—

"They were married. And, contrary to the general experience of such strange misalliances, neither party to the contract had ever occasion to regret it. As at the commencement, so throughout—it is impossible to believe in the existence of any of the consuming passions of youth between them. Howard's mind was not demonstrative—his temperament not excitable; and his bride was at that calm period of

life when the blood is cool and waits upon the judgment. The depths of tenderness which existed in his soul, were not now fathomed as they were to be hereafter."

Indeed the good woman died in about three years, and a chasm was left in the widower's existence; and, "wearing of quiescence, he determined to go abroad." On his voyage he was captured, as we have mentioned, and carried into Carpaix. The author here remarks:—

"It has been preferred as a charge against Howard, that he behaved towards his keepers—or at least towards his captors—much à l'Anglais; that is, with somewhat of contemptuous hauteur. (How singular that the English language should have no word to express that mixture of icy politeness and imperial reserve which all over continental Europe has become the recognised characteristic and distinction of Englishmen.)"

We should think the term *haughtiness* might approach it as synonymous enough; but we must go to the marriage No. 2. After his restoration to England, "he seems to have gone down to Cardington; and after two or three years spent there in study, and in carrying out his plans of practical benevolence, the thought of taking to himself another bride appears to have come upon him with the bland and insinuating witchery of a virgin passion—and such undoubtedly it was. The object on whom his affections were now really showered, was in every way worthy of them. She was about his own age, and of his own social rank. Although her features were not cast in the choicest mould of Grecian beauty, she was very fair,—had large impressive eyes, an ample brow, a *mouth exquisitely cut*, a soft and gentle style of physiognomy—and, overspreading all, there was that chaste and fascinating light with which a well-cultivated mind will illumine and inspire the most ordinary face, covering it with a radiant and enchainning loveliness."

The cut mouth cut out the remembrance of the worthy widow; and the fascinating overspreading light threw all that had gone before into the shades of darkness. It was not gratitude now, but real showers of the affections. Ah! Mr. Dixon can paint when his subject inspires him! Still Howard, now maturely aged thirty, had a spice of the cautious in the very vortex of his love for Miss Henrietta Leeds:—

"The marriage was solemnized on the 25th of April, 1758. We must not, however, omit an incident that occurred before the ceremony, which is very significant of Howard's frankness and firmness at this epoch. Observing that many unpleasantnesses arise in families, from circumstances trifling in themselves, in consequence of each individual wishing to have his own way in all things, he determined to avoid all these sources of domestic discord, by establishing his own paramount authority in the first instance. It is just conceivable that his former experience of the wedded life may have led him to insist upon this condition. At all events, he stipulated with Henrietta, that in all matters in which there should be a difference of opinion between them, *his voice should rule*. This may sound very ungallant in terms—but it was found exceedingly useful in practice."

Some stipulation, indeed, appears to us to have been necessary when we are let in behind the curtain, to witness some of the felicities of the post-nuptial union. Howard, it seems, was "a *curious* observer of nature," and, "at the bottom of his garden at Cardington, he had placed a thermometer; and as soon as the frosty weather had set in, he used to leave his warm bed at two o'clock every morning walk in the bitter morning air to his thermometer, examine it by his lamp, and write down its register,—which done to his satisfaction, he would *cooly* betake himself again to bed. Tradition sayeth not whether Henrietta Howard approved of her husband's method of showing his devotion to the Lady Knowledge; but even had she found herself unable to do so, we apprehend that, in virtue of existing treaties, she would only have been entitled to affect official ignorance of the fact."

This piece of the author's pleasantry is followed

by the last example of the bow-wow rhodomontade style which we shall quote:—

"All these quasi-learned pursuits, however, did not and could not make Howard a man of letters. His intellectual life, though adorned perhaps by such studies, was not built upon them. Science is not a thing on which, or out of which, character can be formed. Life must be modelled on life—not on inductions; on creative thoughts and heroic acts—not on physical or even on philosophical principles. Science, of itself, can do little to make men—though it may make students,—and for Howard it did nothing. Neither from the science of England, nor from the literature of Greece and Rome, did he levy those contributions on which character can be erected; nor do we find that he ever proposed to himself, as models, any of the heroes or sages which the classic lands produced. His antitypes lay in another country—in a different history; and with all their splendid virtues and antique ideas—he formed himself upon them. These were, the apostles, prophets, and patriarchs of old."

If anybody can make sense of this, we yield to superior discernment, and confess there is not one in the string of propositions which we can understand.

From the turn our examination of this volume has taken, it will not be expected that we should follow Howard through his immortal career, at home and abroad. Its blessed results are known; and its glorious sanctification by his death in a distant land, in the midst of his Saviour-like labours, have given him a fame hardly equalled by any human being that ever lived. To the most humane philosophy and apostolic purity of doctrine, he superadded the practical devotedness of his whole existence. He thought, he taught, he toiled, and millions of his fellow-creatures might, without idolatry, adore the memory of the greatest benefactor of his Kind.

MESMERISM.

Zoistic Magnetism, &c. By the Rev. W. Scoresby, D.D., F.R.S. London: Longmans. Torquay: Cockrem.

SINCE the appearance of Mr. Townsend's work, magnetism has not enjoyed the advocacy of such a weight as Dr. Scoresby. Accustomed to scientific induction, he has entered the lists panoplied in double proof armour, and philosophises on his cases in such a manner as to stagger the most sceptical, and "flabbergast" the most incredulous. There is something very shocking in the quiet tone of philosophy when you do not wish to believe, and logical reasoning is quite intolerable where you won't be convinced. Let, therefore, the mockers at mesmerism avoid Dr. Scoresby's volume, and especially as he does not go the whole hog—the most apposite phrase which could be used in reference to clairvoyance, since that is the only animal which can see the wind.

The opinions of the *Literary Gazette* have been so often expressed on the subject of mesmerism, that it would be absurd to repeat them. Suffice it to say, that in this, as in every pretension of science, phrenology, homœopathy, water-cure, chloroform-ageny, rod-divination, metallic tractors, or whatever else, possessing real or imaginative powers, we have been always free to confess that there might be, and were, phenomena which no human judgment could comprehend or explain. Let us, therefore, in guarding against the belief in errors or quackery, not deny to ourselves the reception of truths and facts. At best, we can only understand partially or parts, but if they are demonstrable on evidence which would hang a bishop, we must not boggle at the conclusions to which they would carry us. Even under the supervision of Dr. Elliotson, and still more after the exhibitions of Alexis, we were never implicit believers in many of the assumptions of mesmerism, but we cannot shut out eyes and minds to the proofs afforded by such persons as we know Mr. Townsend and Dr. Scoresby to be. But to the book.

The Reverend Doctor seems to feel that mesmerizing ladies is delicate ground, and, indeed, the terms and language used in describing the experiments are often of so equivocal a character, that we are not surprised at the circumstance. If waltzing or polking are unpleasant to certain relatives or lovers, we do not fancy they could like the *en rapport* intimacies of mesmeric passes and manipulation. Dr. Scoresby was aware of this, and, to avoid *scan. mag.*, tells us that,—

"As the individuals who had kindly submitted themselves to experiment, or, rather, of whose confidence he had availed himself, were females—he had felt it due to himself, as well as to them, to have, at least, a third person present; to have the consent of parents, or proper guardian, in case of young persons; or of the husband, in case of a wife. In two instances, only, had he departed from this rule."

"The objects he had chiefly in view, since he had ascertained his personal capabilities of developing the condition of Zoistic Magnetism, were: the scientific investigation of facts and phenomena; the magnetic or electric (?) physiology of the human system; and any curative, or other beneficial effects or capabilities, of this powerful agency."

The Doctor distinguishes between magnetism and electricity; but we had better give a specimen of the scenes enacted in this sort of philosophical inquiry:—

The "young lady, it may be premised, was about seventeen years of age—a frank, confiding, and amiable person; with a pleasing generous expression of countenance. The idea of the ridiculous, in her situation on the sofa, occasioned, at first, much playfulness of remark, and frequent bursts of laughter. But these soon ceased and passed into a state of sweet composure."

"On first speaking to her, he, Dr. S., in a soft whisper, said—

"Are you pleasant, Jane?"

"The reply, very softly uttered, was—'yes.'"

"Do you like it?"

"Very much."

"Do you feel happy?"

"Very happy: it is delightful."

"What makes you so happy?"

"I don't know: I am generally happy; but I was never so happy before."

If man and wife are one flesh, surely magnetizer and magnetizee are one flesh and spirit also.

"The eliciting of sympathy of the senses was the highest species of phenomena, among those usually referred to mesmeric power, which he, Dr. S., had succeeded in developing. Phenomena, of this species, occurred on the first trial of a lady, a much attached friend, in Exeter. She was not only aware (being with one hand in contact) when he drank anything, however cautiously, with his face turned away, but instantly, on being asked, stated what it was,—as 'wine'—'water.' And on his being pinched in the arm, she complained spontaneously of her own corresponding arm. When his foot was unexpectedly

"As to magnetism and electricity, though principles inseparably co-existent, he could not deem them identical; but, as he had long contemplated them,—along with heat, light, chemical action, and other cognate phenomena,—as the several attributes or properties of some more mysterious and subtle agency. And the same essential, and hitherto undefined agency, he believed to pervade the whole constitution of the material world; an agency by means of which, as the servant of the Great Creator, He appears to regulate and subordinate the creation to His will."

"Thus, whilst these various qualities in matter,—which he, Dr. S., considered as attributes of a common originating agency,—were found, in many cases, to be co-existent,—no one of them could be fixed upon as the master-power; for each one, in its turn, might be made the developing power of the rest. So that chemical action, for instance, might be made to develop, at the same time, light, heat, electricity, magnetism; and, conversely, magnetism might be so made to operate as to yield the phenomena of electricity, heat, light, and chemical action."

"Hence, it must be seen, that the quality of a resulting influence does not necessarily correspond with, or point out, the originating agent. The resulting action may be 'magnetic,' as in the operation of the electric telegraph; whilst the immediate agency may be electrical, and the source of that agency, a particular order of chemical action."

trod upon, she drew her foot up under her dress, complaining that it cramped her foot. And likewise, on his head being rapped with the knuckles of a friend, she put her hand to her own head, and expressed discomfort or pain."

"But results of this order, still more interesting, were elaborately developed in other cases and experiments. In one of these—the case of Miss Mary P.—, an elegant and interesting young friend,—the sensibility and sympathy were, on the first trial, so peculiarly elicited, as to yield a fair expectation of realizing ultimately, (if any where,) the higher phenomena asserted of Zoistic Magnetism. But opportunity, unfortunately, was not afforded for the full investigation."

Here is another marvel of "the conversion of painful inflictions into pleasurable sensations."

"This result was realized on, perhaps, a hundred trials, made, at intervals, during the four long *séances* with Miss H—. As any severities inflicted during the magnetic insensibility, would be felt, as injuries, on the awakening of the subject, he, Dr. S., could, of course, make trial of no pain-giving action beyond pinching, or pricking slightly with a pin,—and to the extent only, in either mode, to which persons in sport might try the sensibilities of one another."

"But the effect of these, ordinarily, pain-giving processes, yielded to his magnetised friend, under the action of his proper hand, only pleasurable sensations. On pinching the top of her left foot, with the finger and thumb of his right hand, there was always an indication of enjoyment, and so, that the harder he pinched, the more expressive and obvious were the signs of pleasure. Sometimes she would laugh out, as if in excess of enjoyment, and, being asked why she laughed, she would reply—'because it is so pleasant.' Very often as he pinched her, in order to show to others the curious effect, she would say—'I like that: 'go on: 'it is delightful: just as in the ordinary state of the human system the like process would give pain to the subject; so in the magnetic state, and under the proper polarities, there were regularly produced the contrary feelings!"

"The effect of pricking with a pin was equally curious. For very many trials, indeed, he had been greatly embarrassed on finding a pin handed to him, or thrown to him, or taken from a table, always producing a sudden start and frown. And though he neutralised the electricity of the hand with which he took up the pin, he found the effect the same. Or when, having taken up the pin and dropped it on the person of the subject over the centre of the chest, he had breathed on his hand before he took it up,—he still found a shock and pain produced. He found it difficult to believe, in respect to these results, that the small substance of the pin could in itself retain a quantity of adverse influence sufficient to produce the effects he witnessed. Ultimately, he inferred, that part of the effect might probably be due to the electricity induced on his hand in taking up the pin, even when he had had no contact with, but only proximity to, an adverse polarity; but still some repellent quality, after all allowances for such influence, seemed to abide in the metal of the pin."

"Having, however, effectually neutralized the electricity of the pin, and of his own right hand whilst holding it, he found the action of its point, on the hands or feet of Miss H—, just as pleasant as the act of pinching! The more he pricked, the more she smiled approvingly. If he questioned her, whether she would not be displeased on awakening, to find herself pinched or pricked?—she always said, 'No, I shall not,' 'I like it: 'do it again: 'go on."

"That pain, in the waking state, would have resulted from these experiments, he, Dr. S., had been abundantly satisfied by the fact, that the foot of his young friend was quite sore the day after the third *séance*; and the hand, which, in the fourth *séance*, he had more particularly practised on with the pin, was found covered with red spots in the places where he had inadvertently pressed the pin within the surface of the skin."

"The conclusion which would, he conceived, be inevitably arrived at from these results, must be

confirmatory of the statements so frequently put forth,—as to the adaptation of the condition of mesmerized patients for the undergoing of operations without either anxiety or pain. From his own experiments,—now imperfectly described,—he, Dr. S., felt fully convinced, that, had the operator, in an amputation, had his patient in the condition of Miss H., whilst he was relatively in that of the magnetizer, not only could an operation have been performed without pain, but, possibly, under an experience of pleasurable sensations!"

And farther of "the attachment of the hands, feet, &c., of the magnetized subject, immovably, as to any power in herself, to the sofa, or to the floor of the room."

"Of this species of phenomena, he, the lecturer, had hitherto been himself incredulous. He had been disposed to ascribe to deception on the part of the operator, or intention on the part of the subject, the phenomena of this kind which he had witnessed in some public exhibitions; and where he had heard of specific cases, altogether beyond suspicion, because of the known integrity of the parties, he had still doubted, in respect to the extent of the influence asserted, whether the observers might not have been deceived? All, therefore, which he could justly claim from those who, like himself, had been incredulous, was to give credit to him and the lady who kindly submitted to be his subject of experiment, for their personal integrity,—and then, duly considering the record he had to give of what he had himself, instrumentally, accomplished, judge according to fair and just judgment."

"Finding, on his second *séance* with Miss H., such a wonderful power and effect, magnetically or electrically, when he breathed on any article in a condition adverse to the polarities of his subject,—it occurred to him to try, whether, by any such process as that referred to, he could attach her hand to the back of the sofa? The idea of this experiment, as well as the species of attachment he proposed to try, was stimulated in some degree by a matter of convenience, viz.:—the securing his subject, on the sofa, (she having previously followed him when he retreated from her side,) whilst he should try certain experiments, respecting community of taste, when out of contact. He made the contemplated trial, breathing on the back of the sofa and then placing the flat of Miss H.'s left hand on the spot, when, to his no small surprise, he found she could not remove it. For, when he now retired into the middle of the room, though Miss H.—nearly threw herself off the sofa in the effort to follow, her hand remained steadily affixed. He next attached, by the like process, the other hand to the sofa pillow, and both the feet to the foot of the sofa. All were found to be attached, as to any power in herself, immovably. And so rigidly were the feet retained that, though he, Dr. S., exerted considerable force in attempting to raise them, he was unable, whilst in a sitting posture at least, to effect his object."

"Subsequently, when Miss H.—had followed him on the floor, he tried another experiment of which he had often heard, and as constantly disbelieved;—the making of a line, or circle, on the floor with his hand, with the view of arresting the movements of his subject within that invisible cordon. The trial, to his great surprise, succeeded; for his subject, who had aforetime followed him in his wanderings amid the furniture of the room, was now suddenly arrested; and arrested, as it appeared, by such irresistible agency, that, in her anxiety to pass, she supplicated in the most earnest and touching manner to be released, throwing herself into postures which, for expressiveness and gracefulness, were fit for studies for the painter or statuary! So touching and earnest, indeed, was the manner of Miss H.—, whilst thus apparently held by an unseen and almost unimaginable power,—that those who witnessed the scene were greatly moved by it, one of the ladies, especially, even to tears."

We have intimated that the Doctor does not get the whole unclean animal in regard to clairvoyance, yet he appears to be inclined to a considerable degree

of faith in it. But we have done enough to exhibit the Doctor's modes of proceeding and views, and we conclude with his satisfactory reasons for operating upon "female subjects":—

"1. Because his experiments were generally made with persons who voluntarily offered themselves, and these happened, almost entirely, to be ladies.—2. Because he found, with those who so offered, entire confidingness, and no one instance of attempted deception, and but rarely, any endeavour to resist the influence.—3. Because when these scientific developments were being elicited in *healthful* subjects—with whom the magnetic condition is much less easily produced, he believes, than with diseased persons—there seemed to be some advantages in the female constitution, for his objects, both on account of its readier subjection to the developing influence, than that of men, and on account of its greater nervous susceptibilities, whereby the phenomena elicited might be expected to be more characteristic, and the electric peculiarities more sensitive. The author now regrets, however, that he had not tried some experiments on the attractive and repellent influence, so interestingly elicited in the case of ladies, with some subjects of his own sex; for however probable the correspondence of the phenomena may be in the two sexes, he is unable, from this want of experience, to attest their uniform agreement."

We think, if we were inclined to try, we should follow the Doctor's example, and disregard his precept.

SUMMARY.

A Glossary of Provincial Words used in Teesdale, in the County of Durham. 8vo. Smith.

THE present addition to our long shelf of dialectal works contains a collection of provincial words and phrases used in the portion of the county of Durham which extends from Middleton, in Teesdale, to Darlington. The district selected may be considered as bounded on the east by the river Skern, on the west by the Hudshope burn, on the north by a line parallel to the course of the river Tees, and distant from it about nine or ten miles, and on the south by that river for about thirty miles in its course. This Teesdale Glossary is the first attempt of the kind that has been made for the county of Durham, and though not very artistically compiled, we believe it to be a faithful record, and as such a valuable addition to our philological stores. We quite agree with the author in thinking that by a careful investigation of the dialect of a limited district, "with which I was once well acquainted, I should render a greater service towards the illustration of our language than if I had taken a wider range." Precisely so; but we should have been better pleased if he had given us more copious examples of the spoken dialect, for these mere lists of words, however valuable, really contain a small quantity of new matter. The chief use of scattered glossaries is their aid in enabling us to investigate the dialects of particular localities. The present compilation does not enter with sufficient minuteness into the peculiarities of the dialect. It has too much in common with Carr and Brockett, and still more with Halliwell, so much so that the novel information would be comprised in a very small pamphlet. We cannot understand the necessity of repeating the same words through a dozen glossaries; and yet less the use of encumbering the pages of a dialectal work with many terms in general use, as *bodle, grange, gusset, hansel, &c.* Few persons, indeed, who wish to ascertain what the gusset of a shirt was, would think of referring to a Teesdale glossary. The introduction of slang phrases is also an incongruous feature. One is rather astonished at finding such phrases as, *All my eye* and *Betty Martin*, suitable only for the late Captain Grose, of *Classical*

* The general words, we mean words not peculiar to the district, as *hansel*, and terms of that class, are generally far better explained in Mr. Halliwell's *Dictionary of Archaisms*, a work which, although to a certain extent imperfect, supplies the use of a series of these glossaries, and avoids the necessity of much tiresome repetition.—Ed. L. G.

Dictionary notoriety. Removing, however, these inconsistencies, the Teesdale glossary, were it merely considered as a copious list of the provincialisms now actually in use in the particular district, is well worth an attentive examination. If it be found that its chief use will result in the addition of a modicum of words to a more comprehensive work, there will yet remain something which will well repay the attention of those who take an interest in the phraseology of the remote districts of the north of England.

On Man's Power over Himself to Prevent or Control Insanity. Pickering.

Is a second edition of one of the Small Books on Great Subjects, all of which have met with the meed of our hearty approbation, and none of them more deserving of it than this volume, from the pen of Mr. John Barlow. There is no subject more interesting to humanity, and the suggestions and reasoning of the author are pregnant with ideas of the highest consequence. The degree of control which the insane can exercise over themselves, (such as individuals cursed with violent passions ought to exercise,) is the foundation stone upon which mild treatment and ultimate relief must be built, and to ascertain its measure precisely is the most desirable of objects, where the happiness of thousands of our fellow-creatures is concerned.

Before and After. 12mo. 2 vols. Newby. ¶ We have met with all or portions of these sketches before, we presume in periodical publications; where they struck us as amusing copies after nature, merging somewhat in caricature. The author, bred to the law, but practising in newspapers, seems to have had opportunities for studying characters, and these he incloses in the amber of progress which political and municipal reform produces in an ancient, quiet, provincial town. The changes wrought affect their positions, and consequently tend to connect the story, so far as it is connected, and group the parties in various situations to suit the descriptive views of the writer, and help him fairly in his unambitious aim to create a few hours' amusement.

The Railway Traveller's Magazine. Maxwell & Co. The first of the contents is ominous under the name of "Man of Mistakes," for we by no means find the rest of the articles and information free from errors which come under the same denomination. It is, however, a monthly issue, and may receive that which it needs, amendment from time to time.

Thoughts on the Study of Prophecy, &c. By a Barrister. Guillaume.

THE 24th chapter of Matthew has forced itself, as it were a brief, into the hands of our barrister; and he seems thereon tempted to take a general view of scriptural prophecy, and enforce its more careful study. Into his arguments we cannot go; many of his statements upon the actual condition of various churches and sects display serious observation and reasoning powers.

Part I. The British Colonies. By R. Montgomery Martin. Tallis.

THE writer's powers and intelligence are too well known to need our evidence, and we shall therefore only say that this production commences with very neat and clearly engraved maps and explanatory text, worthy of Mr. Martin. The vast importance of a perfect knowledge of our colonies has now become so essential to our imperial wealth, that the value of such a work must be greatly enhanced.

The History of England in Verse. By S. Blewett. Grant and Griffiths; Harris.

THE doggerel, to assist memory, cannot be commended; for it is, indeed, for the sake of rhymes, often destructive to the accuracy and truth of history. Take, for instance, the Irish rebellion of last year:—

"Rebellion's blood-red banner waves,
Her sons are doomed to ignoble graves."

Queen Anne dies—
"Amid the party flames
Of Brunswick's right and Stuart's claims."

The prose appendix is rather better, but the whole is a poor attempt.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION: BIRMINGHAM.

Birmingham, September 13.

As our custom has been for eighteen years, we this week commence our Account of the Meeting of the British Association and Report of the Scientific Proceedings, which we continue through successive *Gazettes*, so that a complete history of the former and a full notice of all that is new and valuable in the latter may be in the possession of our readers, without infringing on other subjects, whether interesting to the Arts or important to Literature.

The expediency of this course has ever been to us the more obvious, because among the mass and variety of matters brought before the sections there are usually a large proportion which have been made familiar to the public from the Reports of London and other Societies; and there is also a good deal which does not merit being reported at all. To discriminate and give the grain without the chaff is rather a task. To distinguish what is ignorantly brought forward, or produced to serve trading interests, and get the true pabulum or marrow out of the bones, is our office, and we think we can promise that before October is out, our regular readers will leave no part of these transactions that deserve to be remembered without a distinct record in the pages of the *Literary Gazette*.*

The grand merit of the British Association, in spite of all the criticisms that have been launched against it, is not that it brings to light any very brilliant discoveries or inventions—these are too valuable to their originators to be made known through this channel (even if no jealousy in this respect had ever been exhibited by the Royal and other Societies)—but its course is very practical and useful. It is within this range that it has worked so well. It comes up to the mark and date of science at the period of its congress, and thus by consulting its doings people need not be plodding backwards to discover old discoveries, and be saved, themselves and others, the trouble of demonstrating secrets which have long been known.

Two days have passed since the opening took place, and except the discouragement of an exceedingly wet day on Wednesday, everything has gone (as on that day but in another sense) swimmingly. The local managers of Birmingham have amply fulfilled the pledge of their invitation by Mr. Wills at Swansea. Their subscriptions to meet the expenses are liberal, and their arrangements for the convenience and comfort of their visitors perfect. Lodgings, as might be expected, are somewhat dear, and, as the town is chiefly of old houses, not very good. The hotels are more reasonable, though laying a little on the strangers whom they take in.

About seventy members dined yesterday at Dee's Hotel, the Marquis of Northampton in the chair, the most striking feature in which was the reply of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the French Ambassador, on his health being toasted. It was very complimentary and amicable, and hoped that the two great nations which had so often tried their rival powers in the battlefield would henceforward combine them for the promotion of peace and science.

A rather remarkable circumstance exploded at this party, which also came out very strong in the President's evening address. It was a bitter reproach of the Government for its hostility to science and dislike of scientific men in its service, especially in the navy! In speaking on this point; it was stated that one public officer in a high department of the

* We are rather induced to repeat these remarks upon the present occasion, on account of the conduct of one of the sectional secretaries, Professor Stevely, who in virtue of that office obtains possession of papers and abstracts, which he uses to our disadvantage and his own emolument. Professor Stevely is a paid contributor to a contemporary journal, and we can have no objection to his doing his best in its service; but we consider it not only unbecomingly in the individual, but unfair and unjust to the Association, that he should step in, as he has done, at various times (and expressly this week) to prevent our having what is our public right, and what the Association pre-eminently owes us for our support of it from the beginning, at a cost of many hundred pounds.—Ed. L. G.

State had contemptuously asked, when some beneficial national plan was put before him, "*What's the use of science?*" Upon this text Professor Robinson descended with indignant fluency, and absolutely lifted up his right arm in delivering these sentiments.* What the real misdemeanours of Government are in this respect, we cannot tell. We have heard of scientific officers being discountenanced because of the patronage which devolved upon them if employed, but which fell into the hands of their superiors when ordinary men were sent on ordinary services. If this be so, it is an enormous and prejudicial abuse, and a jobbing worse than a Professor-Secretary's. We have no doubt the individuals who preferred the charge had too much grounds for their public declarations, yet they were only members of the British Association, and it did seem strange to hear its President Robinson inveighing against Government for being so inimical to science, whilst we remembered that the great boasts of the Association have been how much they had effected by applying to Ministers, and being patriotically answered by them. The grants for astronomy, magnetic observatories, the Antarctic and Arctic expeditions, &c. &c. not to mention lesser objects, have been the *Io triumphe* of their successful labours in obtaining Government countenance and aid; and it does seem to be anomalous, now, to turn round and abuse their friends as inimical to all science. [Not that we think any Government of England for the last two centuries has ever been sufficiently alive to its own advantages in the encouragement of science or literature.]

Whilst remarking on such points, we may observe that Dr. Robinson, like too many of his precursors, and too much in the common tone of the Association, did not take the natural high ground on which it ought to stand, if worthy to stand at all; but adopted the defensive against all comers. It is a poor cause that requires continual defending. The foolish speech, not likely to be soon forgotten, in this temper, "What is the use of Science?" might be paralleled, "What is the use of defending?" It is a sign of weakness; engineers do not make little ditches and walls about an impregnable rock.

Another curious portion of the President's address was his commonplace clap-trap about the worthlessness of bawbles, stars, and ribands, so despicable in the eyes of genuine science and the philosophy of his hearers. Close by him sat the *Chevalier* Bunsen, not honoured, but not undistinguished by, nor regardless of, his riband, and all around were scientific *Knights* of England, justly proud of their distinctions, and of their wives being called *miladies*. What nonsense this is! The doctor himself would not and ought not to despise a public recognition of his genius, and, even were it a party one, a badge of such national honour as a reverend might display, were it only a shovel hat.

But our Pen has run away with us from Dee's hurried dinner, where we should have liked to sit half-an-hour longer, near the worthy Mayor of Birmingham, who was croupier, and we are already in the thick of the evening's address. Much was expected from it, as Dr. Robinson has a high reputation for eloquence, and the gallery whence he spoke boasted a great show of leading personages—the French Ambassador, the Prussian Minister, Bunsen, Lords Harrowby, Lyttleton, Wrottesley, Adare, the Bishop of Oxford, and many others of name and station. His discourse certainly did not deteriorate from his fame, and was extremely elaborated and extremely long (nearly two hours). We are generally a little afraid of Irish oratory, but did not feel so much *ennui* upon this, as we have done upon less prolix occasions. The Rev. President delivered a sort of tripartite discourse (which made a variety)—1st, on ancient science retrospectively; 2ndly, much laudation of the Society, to be the head of which he had been elected; and 3rdly and lastly, the intimate union

* The action of the reverend orator is very odd, and consists in raising his left arm perpendicularly up and down, whilst the right is pinned to his side motionless, like the empty coat-sleeve of a wounded man.

of Science with Religion, so that a man to be scientific and irreligious must be a *lusus nature*. The first was safe ground, the second panegyric, and the last a sermon; which the Bishop of Oxford praised in seconding the vote of thanks moved by the Earl of Harrowby. But the *resumé* in the order of our report will enable our readers to form a competent idea of this speech.

We come, however, now in order to the proceedings of the General Committee, which met on Wednesday at one o'clock, in the Library of the Free Grammar School, Lord Northampton, the President, in the chair. The minutes of the last two Committee meetings at Swansea were read and confirmed.

Colonel Sabine then drew attention to an important omission in naming the officers of the Association for the present year. The Master of the Free Grammar School in 1839 had rendered every possible aid to the Association, and received them with great cordiality; he therefore proposed that the Bishop of Manchester be added to the list of Vice-Presidents, which, after being seconded by Sir Roderick Murellson, and voted, was done accordingly. Colonel Sabine next read the following Report of the Council:

I. With reference to the subjects referred to the Council by the General Committee assembled at Swansea, the Council have to report:—

1st. That they communicated the recommendation of the General Committee for the continuance of the Magnetical and Meteorological Observatory at Toronto to the 31st of December, 1850, to Lord John Russell through the President, the Marquis of Northampton; they have the pleasure of stating that the Observatory has been continued.

2nd. Pursuant to the request of the General Committee, the Council have taken into consideration the expediency of inserting in the Rules of the British Association a paragraph to the effect, that those gentlemen who have held the office of President of the Association, should subsequently be *ex officio* members of the Council; and the Council now recommend that a paragraph to that effect should be inserted in the Rules of the Association.

3rd. The sum of £100 placed by the General Committee at the disposal of the Council for the disbursements connected with the Kew Observatory has sufficed, under Mr. Ronald's general superintendence, for the maintenance of the Observatory in the past year, as a depository for the Books and Instruments belonging to the Association, and also for the preparation of the Self-Registering Magnetical Instruments on Mr. Ronald's plan, for the Toronto Colonial Observatory. Mr. Birt has completed the reduction and discussion of the Series of Electrical Observations made at Kew, and Mr. Ronalds has drawn up a report describing the modifications and improvements which he has introduced in the Self-registering Apparatus during the last year. Both these reports will be read to Section A. preparatory to a consideration of any further recommendation which it may appear desirable to make for the continued maintenance of the Observatory. In connexion with this subject the Council have great pleasure in announcing to the General Committee that Her Majesty's Government, on the joint application of the Marquis of Northampton and Sir John Herschel, have granted to Mr. Ronalds a pecuniary recompense of £250 for the invention of his method of constructing Self-registering Magnetical and Meteorological Apparatus. It will be recollected by many members of the General Committee, that the subject of self-registering instruments was discussed at the Meeting of the British Association at Cambridge, in 1845, upon the application for a grant of money from the funds of the Association, to enable Mr. Ronalds to complete an apparatus for that purpose at Kew, and that a recommendation was made on that occasion by the Association to Government, which recommendation was concurred in by the

President and Council of the Royal Society, of the expediency of encouraging by specific pecuniary rewards the improvement of Self-recording Magnetical and Meteorological Apparatus.

As the grant to Mr. Ronalds has been made in consequence of that original recommendation, and the favourable reply that was returned to it, and as the apparatus itself has been constructed, and its successful operation shown at the Observatory of the Association, of which Mr. Ronalds is the Honorary Superintendent, the Council have deemed it proper to make this formal, and, as they are sure, acceptable announcement of the favourable reception which has been given to the application on Mr. Ronalds's behalf: but they are glad, at the same time, to take the opportunity of expressing the satisfaction with which they have learned that the ingenious invention of Mr. Brooke for similar purposes, has also received a pecuniary recompense from the Government.

II. The Council regret that they are still unable to announce the publication either of Professor Edward Forbes's Researches in the *Ægean Sea*, or of the Mountjoy Observations, for which purposes grants of public money have been sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, at the recommendation of the British Association.

III. The Council have added the following names to the list of Corresponding Members of the British Association:—Professor Plücker, of Bonn; Dr. Siljeström, of Stockholm; Professor H. D. Rogers, of Philadelphia.

IV. Professor Dove, of Berlin, Corresponding Member of the British Association, having offered to supply the Association with as many copies as might be desired of his Maps of the Monthly Isothermal Lines of the Globe, founded upon the Temperature Tables printed in the Volume of the Reports of the British Association for 1848, which Maps have been partly engraved and partly lithographed at the expense of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin, the Council directed that Professor Dove should be requested to supply the Association with 500 copies, on the understanding that the Association should pay for the paper, and for taking off the impressions; and that the copies thus furnished should be sold, under the direction of the Officers, to Members of the Association at cost price, with the translation of a report from Professor Dove, explanatory of the Maps, and of the more obvious conclusions deduced from them. The Maps have been completed, but, from accidental circumstances, the packet containing the first 200 copies prepared for the Association has not yet been despatched from Berlin, and cannot be expected to reach England until after the meeting at Birmingham is over; but copies of the Maps and Report will be forwarded immediately they arrive, to Members who may be desirous of purchasing them, and who give their names for that purpose in the reception room. The cost of each copy will be five shillings for the three Maps.

V. The Council has directed that the following addition should be made to the Regulations, according to which the Volumes of the Reports are distributed to the Members.

- 1st. That Members who have formerly paid 5*l.* as a life composition, and shall at any future time pay an additional sum of 5*l.*, shall be entitled to receive (gratis) the Volumes of the Transactions which shall be published after the date of such additional payments.
- 2nd. That Members shall have the opportunity of purchasing any of the already published Volumes of the Association, of which more than 100 copies remain, at half the price at which the Volumes were issued to the public.

VI. The Council have great pleasure in submitting to the General Committee the following list of invitations, from which the General Committee will have to select the place of meeting of the Association in 1850:—

- a. Invitations received at Swansea by the General Committee, and which stood over after the settle-

tion of Birmingham, 1849:—From *Ipswich*, for 1849, signed by the High Sheriff, the Bishop of Norwich, and eighty gentlemen of the Eastern Counties. From *Bath*, for 1850, signed by the Mayor. From *Derby*, for 1850.

b. Invitations received since the Swansea Meeting, and communicated to the Council:—From *Edinburgh*, for 1850, from the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council, from the *Senatus Academicus*, and from the Royal Society of Edinburgh. From *Belfast*, for 1850 or 1851, from the Town Council, the Royal Academical Institution, the Natural History and Philosophical Society, and from the Harbour Commissioners. From *Manchester*, for 1852, from the Royal Institution, the Geological Society, the Natural History Society, the School of Design, and the Mechanics' Institution. From *Hull*, for an early meeting, from the Literary and Philosophical Institution.

The Report concluded with a letter from Colonel Sabine to the Council, apprising them of his intention at Birmingham to resign into the hands of the General Committee the office of General Secretary, which he had had the honour of receiving from them for ten successive years. He fully appreciated the high honour and the advantages the appointment conferred upon the holder of it, but he did not think it right to monopolize it altogether. Every one we are sure will acknowledge with us the valuable services which Colonel Sabine, as joint secretary with Sir Roderick Murchison, and, since the Southampton meeting, singly, has rendered thus officially to the Association, and regret that his high sense of justice has induced him to adopt the course he has taken. The duties of the office are important, arduous, and delicate. Colonel Sabine has fulfilled them with zeal, ability, and urbanity.

The special recommendations of the Council were put to the vote separately, and carried, and the report, generally, adopted.

The Treasurer submitted the account of the past year, the main features of which were, the sale of 1000*l.* consols, an expenditure of 600*l.* for printing, &c., the volume of the Transactions, of 83*l.* on account of scientific grants, and a balance in hand of 360*l.* 7*s.*

One of the recommendations adopted by the General Committee at Swansea was, that the Assistant General Secretary be requested to form a complete list of all the recommendations that have been made by the Association, accompanied by a report of the manner and extent to which these recommendations have been carried into effect, to be printed and placed in the hands of the Committees of Sections. In accordance with this resolution, Professor Phillips had prepared, and had had printed, a synopsis of reports requested, and researches recommended by the Association from 1831 to 1848 inclusive. The synopsis contains sixty-six pages, is admirably arranged under several headings, and in columns, with a reference to the printed result of the recommendation. It forms a complete summary of the valuable labours of the Association. The synopses were distributed to the members of the General Committee after the proceedings of the meeting, which terminated by the election of the officers of Sections, and the Committee of Recommendations.

At eight o'clock about 700 persons, in spite of the constant heavy rain, had assembled in the Town Hall. After waiting a little time, the Marquis of Northampton, in an appropriate speech, inducted his successor, Dr. Robinson, of Armagh, to the chair. The reverend gentleman then advanced to the rostrum in front, and delivered his inaugural address to the meeting. His text was, that Science only advances by association. Physical knowledge was of very ancient date; physical science was modern. He referred to the Magi, priests of Egypt, and other hierophants of the elder times: the elements were there, but no vivifying principle. Association was wanting. He then described the circumstances which prevented the necessary intercourse and progress of science. But the most repulsive principle was to be found in the priestly craft of old, keeping God's

knowledge for themselves, their influence and aggrandisement, and refusing to unite with the world and benefit it by their intelligence. So passed these interpreters away, till true, honest, free, open association arose. The principle was revealed by Kepler, Galileo, and Bacon, in the fifteenth century. They were lovers of wisdom, not lovers of power; and under this new system progress was magic indeed. The next step was brotherhood and publishing transactions. The history of science began with Newton, and thenceforth was light where all before was darkness. Societies at that time were required to meet certain conditions of mind, and knowledge must grow and advance with the spirit of the age. They were limited and exclusive; did no harm when London contained all the science of the kingdom, but were inadmissible when the ranks of science included the multitudes in the provinces. Restricting the number of Fellows might form an aristocracy of sciences; but science could not admit of an aristocracy. As auxiliaries, these societies were most admirable, but the domain of science was now too vast to be cultivated by them. Look at the Royal Society. At first collectors only of facts; but as facts accumulated, it was seen how much more important it was to compare than even to collect. The pressure was soon felt, and Societies, such as astronomy and geology, slipped off, and the Royal Society became more active after these divisions. The remedy, however, was not the re-absorption of these societies, but to draw them altogether once more into a brotherhood. For, in fact, no single science could be cultivated alone, and you could not isolate one from the other without injuring both. Now, We (the British Association) afforded the requirements of advancing science. Every individual publishing in any Society was admitted as of right.

Dr. R. then went into the eulogy upon the Association: its opening the way to unknown aspirants and modest merit, and also the ladies, upon whom, and the sex, he pronounced a most glowing panegyric. He also went over the eighteen years of the Association, in not one of which had it failed to make valuable additions to science. He instanced the catalogue of stars, the level proposed for the survey of Ireland,—namely, the mean of high and low water, the forms of waves and ships, &c. &c. &c. Upon the religious part of the address we abstain from saying more than that it was spoken with much fervency, and put the oft-discussed topic upon an eloquent basis.

Lord Harrowby, in a very neat and sensible speech, moved the thanks of the meeting, and the Bishop of Oxford seconded it.

At half-past ten, the whole was over.

On Thursday, at eleven o'clock, or soon after, the Sections met for the dispatch of business. As there can be no regular report at this period of the week, we need merely say that the Sections began as well as on any former first day. We subjoin, however, a few of the most prominent subjects:—

"Reports on the Discussion of the Electrical Observations at the Kew Observatory," by W. R. Birt. The author stated that 15,170 observations of atmospheric electricity, made during a period of five years, contributed to the deduction of the results detailed in the report. Of these 14,515 were positive, and 655 negative. The positive observations had furnished the data for determining the ordinates of the diurnal and annual curves of atmospheric electricity, especially during the three years 1845, 1846, and 1847, to which 10,176 observations contributed. The result of the discussion with reference to the diurnal curve is as follows:—From the mean of the three years at each observation hour—viz., every even hour, Greenwich mean time, throughout the day and night, it appears that the tension of atmospheric electricity is at a maximum at two in the morning; from this hour a gradual rise takes place until four a.m., and again until six a.m., after which hour the tension rises rapidly, the value at eight a.m. being nearly double of that at six a.m., the increase is then more gradual until ten a.m.; the epoch of the first or forenoon maximum. From this hour the tension gradually declines until four p.m., when its value is but slightly

above the value at eight A.M. This second minimum the author terms the *diurnal* minimum, as distinguishing it from the *nocturnal* at two A.M. After this the tension rapidly increases until eight P.M., and after a slight rise to ten P.M., the epoch of the principal or evening maximum, the upward course of the tension is completed. The evening maximum is rather considerably elevated above the forenoon maximum, at 10 A.M. Between the hours 10 P.M. and midnight the tension declines to nearly the value of the nocturnal minimum. In treating on the annual period, the author remarked that the lowest tensions are exhibited in June and August, the tension of July being rather above that of either of the before-named months. During September a small rise occurs, which is increased in October; the augmentation becomes more rapid from November to January, and then receives a check, the February increment being less than either of those of December and January. In February the maximum is attained; it is succeeded in March by a very rapid diminution of tension, which continues through April and May, the decrements becoming less in value until June, the month presenting the lowest tension. In connexion with this part of the Report, the author solicited attention to the close relation which appears to exist between the electric tension and the humidity of the atmosphere, the records of the Observatory at Greenwich furnishing the means of comparing the two elements. With respect to the diurnal period, the author also infers that the higher tensions exhibited by the electrometers are more or less connected with the humidity of the atmosphere, especially the moisture enveloping the collecting lantern. With the view of illustrating the point, he divided the entire series of observations into two sets, one of high, the other of low tensions, as well as specifying in each division the summer and winter observations, and found that the high tensions in the winter materially influenced the results deduced from all the observations in the winter, and these again materially influenced the results appertaining to the entire year. The correspondence between these results and those of the discussion of the annual tended greatly to confirm his inference that the positive tensions, especially those of a high value, are more or less due to the humidity present in the atmosphere. The discussion of the observations at sunrise and sunset, 3367, illustrates to a great extent the annual period. As these observations extend over a period of five years, the curves are more regular than that deduced from the observations of three years. In accordance with the results having reference to the diurnal period, the sunset-curve is found to be superior to the sunrise—i.e., the electric tension is higher at sunset than it is at sunrise. In the sunrise and sunset curves, the maxima occur in January instead of February, in other respects there is considerable accordance between the annual periods. The negative observations could not be dealt with in a similar manner—could not be well combined to bring out a daily period. They occur with heavy rains or thunder storms, and, according to a comparison of the Greenwich and Kew records, almost always when there are cirro-stratus clouds, and when rain is precipitated by them. There is, however, something like a diurnal period to be derived from the negative observations, and the probable curve projected therefrom exhibits the greatest amount in the middle of the day. The curve of cloudiness and the curve of negative electricity are similar, the former preceding the latter by about two hours. In both instances, then, a close connexion seems established, humidity with positive, and cloudiness with negative atmospheric electricity, and it is almost proved that positive atmospheric electricity is due to the tension of aqueous vapour, and negative atmospheric electricity to the disturbances produced by the sudden precipitation of this vapour, when existing as clouds.

Sir John Herschel, in a letter to Colonel Sabine, wrote that he had seldom read a more interesting report than this of Mr. Birt's, and that atmospheric electricity was, in consequence of it, very much less puzzling to him.

Dr. Robinson could not let the subject pass without observing how evident it was that we were now on the point of at least obtaining the laws of atmospheric electricity from systematic observations, and how unfortunate that at such a point, for want of funds, the observations at Kew were obliged to be discontinued. The promise, however, opened to us by Mr. Birt's report entitled, he said, the Association to press upon Government the establishment of a Meteorological Observatory; and this opportunity was singularly favourable, as Mr. Kupffer had announced to Colonel Sabine that in Russia a central observatory had just been established. [For this fact see Notes from Abroad, in our present number].

In the course of his communication to this Section, Mr. Birt alluded to the popular idea of atmospheric electricity, which bears the blame for everything, and the errors such observations as those at Kew were calculated to dispel. In 1847, the influenza was attributed to the sad want of electricity, when in that year the quantity of electricity was really more than in the previous and subsequent year. Cholera now is said to be caused by electricity, and a great deal of uncertain speculation is adventured on similar ungrounded hypotheses.

The Chemical Section, B, under Dr. Percy, had a good sitting, Faraday, R. Hunt, Playfair, and other eminent chemists, "assisting." In Geology, C, a very important local discussion took place on an excellent paper read by Mr. J. Beete Jukes, "On the General Relations of the New Red Sandstone, the Coal-measures, and the Silurian Rocks of the South Staffordshire Coal-field," which brought up Sir C. Lyell, Professor Sedgwick, and other great geologists. It was followed by Mr. S. H. Blackwell, "On the Igneous Rocks of the South Staffordshire Coal-field," and "On the Faults traversing the South Staffordshire Coal-field." In Natural History, D, the grand feature was Dr. Daubeny's "Report on the Action of Carbonic Acid on Plants allied to the Fossil Remains found in Coal formations." The learned professor's experiments (not quite completed) on ferns, other plants, and fishes, showed that the effect of the gas was different upon different species. Five per cent. was generally fatal to the latter, and he did not arrive at the conclusion that vegetation had been stimulated at the carboniferous era by the greater amount of the gas. A very long discussion ensued. In G, Mechanics, Mr. Roberts brought forward a very ingenious design for supplying the boilers of steam-engines with water, and a paper on an eccentric gauge for wires, &c., with a curious pictorial illustration. In F, Statistics, Mr. Porter read a most important paper on the produce of Ireland, and, as Lord Lyttleton (the chairman) remarked in winding up the business, it was a most melancholy fact to learn that after the calamities of 1847, so far from Ireland being taught wisdom by the visitation of famine, there was, in 1848, a diminution in the corn cultivated, and a great increase in the culture of the potato.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

HORE. EGYPTIACÆ.—NO XI.

Part II. concluded.—The First Nineteen Dynasties.

WE have now to consider the most brilliant period of Egyptian history, the rule of the eighteenth and nineteenth dynasties, during which the kingdom rapidly rose in power, until the Shepherds were wholly expelled, and the nations of Asia and Africa, from the Tigris to Abyssinia, were reduced to tributary states, under the control of the Pharaohs. A complete examination of Manetho's lists and the monumental history of these dynasties would fill a volume; and, therefore, I must confine myself chiefly to certain remarkable points upon which I conceive new light may be thrown.

The chronology of the eighteenth and nineteenth dynasties presents remarkable difficulties, which the numerous monuments of the time do not enable us completely to clear up. These difficulties are chiefly occasioned by the repetitions of certain kings' names and reigns, from some errors in the lengths of kings,

reigns, and from the reckoning of some contemporary kings as successive, in Manetho's lists. With respect to the chronology of these dynasties, in addition to the dates which I have before mentioned, all that can be said with certainty appears to me to be, that the eighteenth dynasty commenced about B.C. 1550, at the commencement of the great Shepherd-war, and that the nineteenth ended somewhat more than 300 years afterwards, about the middle of the thirteenth century B.C. These approximative dates agree with the two dates of the reigns of Amenoph II. and Rameses II., which I have previously pointed out.

Let us now examine more particularly some of the events recorded by Manetho and the monuments. Abstaining from entering upon the subject of the foreign wars of the Egyptians—a subject which would require much larger space than I can here devote to it—I shall only notice one fact relating to these wars, namely—the total silence of the Scriptures as to the expeditions of the Pharaohs. To ascertain the cause of this silence, we have in the first place to consider the nature of that part of the Sacred Records which relates the history of the Children of Israel during the interval in which the great conquests of the kings of the eighteenth and nineteenth dynasties were achieved. The Book of Judges, which contains the history of this period, narrates the servitudes of the Israelites, their deliverances, and the periods of prosperity following those deliverances. The durations of the servitudes and times of prosperity are given with scarcely any notice of remarkable events which happened during those periods; but the successful efforts of the Israelite leaders to free their country from foreign tyranny, and the circumstances of each deliverance, are much more fully narrated. Hence we can easily see that the Book of Judges, like the historical parts of the Pentateuch, is an account of God's dealings with His people, of the punishments which He inflicted on them for their sins, and the leaders whom He raised up to deliver them when they had repented. We may, therefore, readily believe that Egyptian armies passed through Palestine, and that their passages are not recorded in the Book of Judges, because they neither conquered the Israelites nor made them tributary. That they did not do so, I consider almost certain, since I find no names of towns of the Israelites, nor names of the tribes, in the lists of towns, and peoples, and countries conquered, or made tributary by the kings of the eighteenth or nineteenth dynasties, although we do find such names in the similar list of Sheshonk I., the Shishak of the scriptures. Hence it appears highly probable that the Pharaohs of the eighteenth and nineteenth dynasties never attacked the Israelite possessions during the times of the Judges, and their reason for not doing so must have been, that they well knew the calamities which their predecessors had brought upon themselves, and upon all Egypt, by their cruelty to the Israelites. The same may be said of the kings of the twentieth dynasty.

I have already mentioned that Thutmose, or Thothmes IV., expelled the Shepherds, and I have nothing now to add to what I have before said on this subject, except that the silence of the monuments as to this important event is easily to be explained. For we find that nothing which the Egyptians considered as not creditable to their valour is ever recorded on the monuments; and, consequently, we cannot expect to find on them an account of a transaction in which an Egyptian army of 480,000 men was unable to reduce a fortified place defended by a force of Shepherds of about half their number.

The next remarkable event after the Shepherds' exodus, was the settlement of a foreign tribe of worshippers in Egypt, and the subjugation of the whole country by them. This event seems to have been noticed by Manetho; for Eusebius, in the second part of his chronicle, mentions, that during the reign of Amenophis (Amenoph III.), the seventh king of the eighteenth dynasty, "the Ethiopians, migrating from the river Indus, came and took up their habitation near to Egypt;" and Syncellus, in his *Liber*, inserts the following sentence between Amenophis and Orus:—"The Ethiopians, coming from the

river Indus, took up their habitation near to Egypt." Of course this statement would be of little value if resting solely on the authority of Syncellus; but when we find it also in the chronicle of Eusebius, it becomes highly probable that it was originally derived from Manetho, or some equally trustworthy authority; and the fact that Egypt and Ethiopia, the latter perhaps first, were some time under the power of foreign chiefs about the time mentioned by Eusebius, proves the genuineness of the statement.

The position of the eastern Ethiopians is easily fixed, from the accounts of Herodotus and others; whence we learn that they chiefly inhabited Gedrosia and Carmania; and it is probable that their territories did not extend further eastward than the river Indus. Herodotus in his enumeration of the army of Xerxes, mentions them as a long-haired people, to distinguish them from the woolly-haired western Ethiopians who inhabited the countries watered by the Upper Nile. The Cuthites, or inhabitants of Cuthah, placed by the king of Assyria in the cities of the ten tribes, may be the same people, (*vide* 2 Kings xvii. 24, 30.)

The earliest indication of the presence of the sun-worshippers in Egypt is in the time of Amenoph III., in an inscription on a scarabæus, with the date of the eleventh year of his reign, in which their god, Aten, or the Solar Disk, is distinctly mentioned. (See Rosellini's *Monumenti Storici*; plates, No. XLV. 2.) This furnishes us with a strong reason for adopting Sir Gardner Wilkinson's conjecture, that Amenoph III. belonged to that foreign race; and the fact that two (at least) of his sons held their religion, renders this still more probable. After the death of Amenoph III., the foreign chiefs became very powerful, and succeeded in gaining possession of Egypt and Ethiopia, and holding those countries for some years. Their kings are found in Manetho's list, between Orus and Rameses, of the eighteenth dynasty; and since the former king destroyed their monuments, they must be reckoned as before him; but they were after Amenophis, his predecessor; consequently, they must be placed between these two kings, or reckoned as contemporary with one or both of them, but mostly with Orus, since his monuments are few, and thus indicate a reign much shorter than that assigned to him by Manetho—namely, thirty-six years and five months, or thirty-seven years. To class the kings of the sun-worshippers in their proper order is a work of great difficulty, though much has been done by Sir Gardner Wilkinson and M. Prisse towards effecting this desirable object.

The monuments erected by these foreigners must have been considerable; but few now remain, and these have suffered severely from the hatred which the Egyptians bore to this people. Their most remarkable records are to be found in the sculptures of the grottoes of the ancient town of Psinaula, and in the sculptures on the hills near Ashmooneyn, the old Hermopolis Magna, and in some sculptures in Ethiopia. From these we obtain a general idea of their religion, which was a simple form of sun-worship. In their religious inscriptions we find the sun represented as a disk, with numerous rays issuing from it, each terminating with a human hand, one of which presents to the worshipper the symbol of life. The names under which these people worshipped the sun are Aten-ra, or the solar disk, that is, the visible sun; Mui-ra, the brightness, or rays of the sun; and Ra, or Phra, the solar principle, or power supposed to reside in the sun. It is well known that sun-worship was practised in ancient times by many powerful nations of Asia, by some of the Chaldeans, by the Medes, Persians, and Bactrians, by the Massagæ, a tribe of the Scythians, by the Phœnicians, and by some of the Syrians. Among all these nations the sun appears to have been the principal object of worship, and among some of them the sole god. It is interesting to compare as much as we know concerning the religion of the sun-worshippers in Egypt with the Chaldean oracles of Zoroaster, as given by Cory in his *Ancient Fragments*. Although generally of late origin, they certainly contain many of the

principles of the old religion of Zoroaster. Thus, for example, we read,—

"It becomes thee to hasten to the light and rays of the Father,

"From whence was sent to thee a soul, endued with much mind:"

A sentence which forms a curious comment on the worship of the foreigners in Egypt as represented upon their own monuments; and similar instances might be multiplied; but I shall only notice the regal character of the sun, and another remarkable point. Zoroaster and his followers generally speak of one deity, though it is evident that they had a triad or triads; and, in like manner, though the hieroglyphic inscriptions of the sun-worshippers uniformly represent but one object of adoration, yet, in two instances, mention is made of "the suns." Now, from the different names given to the god of the sun-worshippers, it is obvious that they adored one god, whom they considered as resident in the sun, and operating through its rays; and yet that they worshipped the principle, through the medium of the sun, and its vivifying rays. These evidently correspond to the Fire, Sun, or Light, and Ether, of the Zoroastrian triad, originating from a Monad. The only one of these correspondences that appears at first sight strained is that of the third person of the Zoroastrian triad, Ether, with the principle resident in the sun; but the objection is removed when we remember that the Ether of Zoroaster corresponds to the Soul or Spirit of the Universe, of several of the ancient philosophers, whose principles are well known. How interesting it is to see, in the earliest monuments of Asiatic nations yet known, the first records of that religion which so widely prevailed in Asia for so many ages, and which is not yet extinct!

Precisely how and when the sun-worshippers were expelled from Egypt does not appear; though it cannot be doubted that Orus, the Har or Hor, of the monuments, was the king who overcame them; for it has been ascertained that he built a propylæum at Thebes from the materials of former edifices erected by the foreign kings; and this, joined to the fact of the very frequent erasure of their names by the Egyptians, even in private tombs, renders it most probable that their expulsion was effected by force.

After this time, no very remarkable event appears to have happened until the accession of Sethee I., the Sethos, or Sethosis, of Manetho, and first king of the nineteenth dynasty. In the sculptures on the north wall of the great temple of El-Karnak, at Thebes, are several already supposed to refer to the expulsion of a Shepherd-race from Egypt. From the inscriptions which accompany them, we learn that king Sethee expelled a race of Shepherds "of the land of Shasu" from the city of the Lion, in the first year of his reign. It is not certain whether the city of the Lion is Leontopolis or Thmuïs; for Thmuïs has the same signification in Coptic as Leontopolis has in Greek. However, I think it more probable that it is Thmuïs, because that town preserved the original name.

Manetho, in his relation of the events of the reign of Sethosis, as cited by Josephus, speaks of that king as Egyptian, and of his brother Armais as Danaus; and relates at some length the offences of Danaus and his usurpation. Herodotus, in a similar relation, confounds Sethee with Sesostris. It is obvious that the supposition that the flight of Danaus took place early in the reign of Sethee is repugnant to all the systems of Greek chronology derived from the statements of the Greek writers; but the fact of Manetho's putting forth that idea was probably occasioned by his concluding at once, from the similarity of the Egyptian account to the Greek traditions concerning Danaus, that Armais and Danaus must have been the same person as Herodotus had concluded before him.

It only remains to notice the account I have already mentioned of a great Shepherd-invasion in the time of Menptah, or Menphthah, the son and successor of Rameses II. Josephus, who cites Manetho's account of this occurrence, expressly says that Manetho did not take it from his ancient records, but,

"as he himself confesses, from certain fabulous compositions of uncertain authorship." This account is evidently a confused tradition of an invasion of the Shepherds during the times of the eighteenth or nineteenth dynasty, in which those foreigners, as coming from Jerusalem, are supposed to be the Jews. The tradition may be thus briefly stated. In the reign of Amenophis, the son of Rameses, and father of Sethos-Rameses, who is thus identified with Menptah, the son of Rameses II., and father of Sethee II., all unclean persons were sent out of the inhabited part of Egypt to work in the quarries; and on their complaining of the severity of such treatment, they were allowed to occupy the city of Avaris. Having thus obtained a place where they might easily revolt, they renounced their allegiance to Amenophis, chose a priest of Heliopolis as their leader, called in the Shepherds who had formerly possessed the country from Jerusalem, and with their assistance made war upon the Egyptians, while Amenophis, terrified at a prophecy, withdrew with his army to Ethiopia. But at the end of thirteen years the king and his son returned from Ethiopia, and drove out the unclean people and Shepherds. It is added, that it was said that the priest who ordained their polity was Osarsiph, a Heliopolite, whose name when he went over to these people was changed to Moyses (Moses). It is quite unnecessary to refute the application of this account to the sojourn and exodus of the Israelites; though it is difficult to ascertain when the event happened on which the tradition is founded. It may refer to the Shepherd-expulsion in the time of Sethee I., or to an event which perhaps happened towards the close of the reign of Menptah; which latter conjecture is not improbable, since two usurping sovereigns reigned between Menptah and Sethee II.

REGINALD STUART POOLE.

Cairo, July, 1849.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday.

It appears that, after all, the Palace of the Louvre, (Hugo's "Mecca of European intelligence"), has no chance of being completed in our days; a committee of the National Assembly having resolved, on account of the deplorable state of the public treasury, to recommend the rejection of the government scheme presented some time ago. The delay in finishing this majestic building is not at all creditable to the French; but it is the way of these people to finish nothing they take in hand. Their great national musical theatre was intended as a mere temporary edifice, and is only in lath and plaster; but it has now been used for between twenty and thirty years, and there is not the slightest earthly chance that a new house, really worthy of its destination, will ever be constructed to replace it. The same is the case with the Théâtre de la Porte St. Martin. The National Library in the Rue Richelieu is not complete as a library; the Pantheon has never been made to fulfil the purposes for which it was intended; the Bourse has not yet obtained statues to occupy the vacant pedestals of its façade; the termination of the Sainte Chapelle is still years distant; the Garden of Plants is continually waiting for additional buildings; so is the Palace of the Institut; so in a greater or less degree is every museum and public edifice. And, if it had not been for the un-French-like liberality and energy of Louis Philippe, the beautiful church of the Madeleine and the splendid triumphal arch at the Barrière de l'Etoile, would to this day be hideous masses of unfinished masonry, surrounded by boarding, and overrun with weeds.

Some of the musical journals complain bitterly of the past musical season;—it was, say they, one of the very worst that has been known for years; even at London, they declare, that the greater part of the *artistes*—(they mean concert givers) gained nothing or next to nothing, whilst many were money out of pocket; and yet London was almost the only place

at which concerts could be offered with the slightest chance of success. As for Paris, Rome, Naples, Turin, Berlin, Vienna, Dresden, and Munich, they have been so disturbed and impoverished by political strife, that no musicians were mad enough to make an attempt to charm their ears and bleed their pockets. Even St. Petersburg itself would neither listen nor give.

The pictures, &c., of the Exhibition at the Tuileries, which have received medals or other prizes, or been purchased by the Government, are now re-exhibiting for a few days. This is a graceful honour to pay them. To-day, the President of the Republic has distributed the prizes to the fortunate exhibitors. Most of the works thus recompensed were favourably noticed in the *Literary Gazette* on the opening of the Exhibition.

The newspapers announce the discovery of some paintings of the time of Louis XIII., buried under a thick coat of whitewash and plaster, in the Church of St. Eustache. Great pains have been taken to clean them, but they are such poor daubs as not to be worth preserving.

Compared with the dramatic *feuilletonistes* of the Parisian Press, the theatrical critics of the London journals are the slowest of slow coaches. No Cockney scribe, for example, could, I am sure, at all approach a glorious flight of Jules Janin in his *feuilleton* of Monday last. The fat man thus announces the re-appearance of a second-rate actress at the Palais Royal:—

"Hurrah! She has returned at last—she has come back—she is restored to us! O joy! Her public has found her again, and she has found her public! Behold her! Behold her more active, more eloquent, and more animated than ever! The weight of crowns has not bent that charming head, the noise of gold poured forth in floods has not changed that impassioned intelligence, the pride of triumph has left untouched that exquisite modesty! So, see how the town has changed! See what an air of rejoicing has spread over the vast space which Cardinal Richelieu formerly filled with his grandeur! See how foreigners from the most distant countries of Europe, who had forgotten the road to France, now hasten to Paris! Oh! what a fête! what a surprise, what grace, what favour, what zeal, what devotedness to her art! Let us speak aloud,—let us give expression to our joy as loud as it can speak! No silly constraint: let us give the reins loose to our enthusiasm! People and nations, I announce it to you by the sound of the trumpet of literary judgment,—clap your hands, strew flowers, lilies, and roses by handfuls,—make crowns,—put on your Sunday clothes and your new hats!—Hosannah! Hosannah!—Mlle. Scriwaneck has returned!"

Literary purists growl fiercely at the harmless puffs in the newspapers, by which London publishers sometimes try to find purchasers for their wares; but what would they say if the publishers were to imitate the outrageous style in which their Parisian brethren indulge? Warren never puffed his blacking, or Holloway his ointment, with half so much impudent charlatanism as the Parisians constantly employ to announce the works even of the most popular authors. This very day, for instance, the papers contain an advertisement of the last number of Lamarque's *Conseiller du Peuple*, in which it is said: "Enlorgy is impuissant in presence of the imperishable beauties of this new *chef-d'œuvre* of the author of the *Girondins*: we can only cry READ!"—and this shameless *réclame* is not printed in modest type and thrust in an out of the way corner like the puffs of the English publishers, but dashes boldly across the whole surface of the newspaper in letters literally an inch big. The advertisements of Alexander Dumas are stupendous specimens of charlatanism: one of them says, "God dictates and Dumas holds the pen;" another calls him an "illustrious author of immense talent," and represents him in the insurrection of June as rushing out with his musket to blaze away at the insurgents, and then rushing home to write a description of his emotions. "At his post," it says, "as a defender of order in

June, he laid aside the musket to write hour by hour the terrible episodes of those sanguinary days." On Victor Hugo the puffing is equally exaggerated. He is always "an illustrious poet," a "profound thinker," a "brilliant orator," a "great statesman," and "possessed of a magic pen, which thrills every heart with delight, and illuminates every mind—which dazzles the present and wins glorious immortality." Nor are men of lesser note less impudently puffed. The work of one obscure scribe is advertised for its "perfection of thought and magnificence of style"—for being at once "a history, a journal, and a poem:" another is stated to be "the development with rare talent, and perfect clearness of reasoning, admirable purity and energy of style, of a grand, fecund, and imposing idea." And to complete this quack-like style of advertising, Parisian publishers not unfrequently descend to the humbug of giving what they call premiums to purchasers—the premium being sometimes books, sometimes engravings, sometimes tickets to the theatres. One worthy is just now offering lottery tickets. "Tickets in the lottery by which 3000*l.* may be gained, will," he says, "be given to all who may subscribe for a year to the magazine called the *Foyer Domestique*, the most complete family journal that is published. It contains a political and commercial review for fathers; treatises on domestic economy, fashions, religion, &c., for mothers; designs of embroidery, anecdotes, music, for daughters; reports of college lectures and sporting matters for sons; moral tales for babes; news and theatrical criticisms for the *salon*; with something for the kitchen, the garden, and the stable." Such is literary advertising in Paris!

NOTES FROM ABROAD.

Continental Criticisms on the Performance of Meyerbeer's Prophet in London.—It appears that some of the admirers of M. Meyerbeer abroad, are loud in their complaints of the inadequate manner in which his great work, *Le Prophète*, was executed by the Covent Garden orchestra in London. Whether the illustrious composer himself is satisfied, or otherwise, does not exactly appear, but the following letter, in some of the Paris papers, understood to be written by a friend and countryman of the great *maestro*, would seem to answer that question in the negative. After describing the performance at the Philharmonic Concerts of the symphonies of Beethoven and Mozart, as very inferior to the execution of the same works at the Paris Conservatoire, the writer proceeds as follows:—"A few words on the execution of *Le Prophète*. A month had elapsed since I was present at the concert of the Philharmonic Society, and during that time I had heard it constantly repeated that M. Costa's orchestra was the first in the world. What can one answer to such assertions? And yet to hear its execution of *Le Prophète* is sufficient to convince every real connoisseur that it is quite unequal to deal with the difficulties of that magnificent composition. You know, sir, that never had the execution of any dramatic work in Paris been so carefully attended to as that of M. Meyerbeer's last production. The composer had been present at every rehearsal, and required unceasing attention and labour from the orchestra and choruses during three months. But in London *Le Prophète* is got up and rehearsed in three weeks! A miracle! exclaim the dilettante, what a clever man the leader must be! And then his orchestra is really wonderful! Only think, to get up a work like *Le Prophète* with three rehearsals! It is hard to credit this, but I have the fact from Mme. Viardot herself. What self-sufficiency! The best instrumentists in Paris have twenty-seven rehearsals, and the musicians of London have three! At the fourth representation (I did not assist at the three first), the orchestra read their part with great difficulty, and the leader was too happy at the success the piece had obtained to require any *nuances*. In a word, the opera was played *à tour de bras*; it was who will play the loudest. Ah! how well these gentlemen would do to step over the Channel (even if they were to undergo a little sea-sickness as a punishment)! Let them go to Paris; let them listen, and

observe, and they will learn something worth the voyage. I will not dispute, nevertheless, their merits; they are clever musicians for ordinary works, and which they know; but they are completely devoid of that *finesse*, that feeling, that indescribable something which makes the vocalist quite at ease in singing, and does justice to the composer. Glory to Massé, Habeneck and Girard!"

Russia.—The central physical observatory, the construction of which by the Russian Government was commenced at the beginning of July last, has just been finished. This establishment, entrusted to the direction of M. Kupffer, is intended to furnish a local habitation and the necessary apparatus for all physical observations and experiments which require considerable means and the union of conditions indispensable to the greatest exactitude; but it will be equally charged with the distribution of instruments tested for precision to the different physical observatories in the provinces of the Russian Empire.

Harlem Lake.—It is long since we heard any thing of the progress in draining this lake. But the newspapers now state that it is going on vigorously, and the works not even suspended on Sundays. During August, they add, the waters were lowered to the extent of 27½ inches, Dutch measure; and before March, 1850, it is anticipated that the bed will be dry land.

A Parisian tailor announces in one of the journals that he creates coats and waistcoats.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

FOREIGN REFUGEES.

IN common, we fancy, with our brethren of the Press, we are in the habit of receiving appeals calling upon us to give publicity to addresses, and advocate the cause of various classes of foreign refugees who have fled to this country.* Now, we have ever admitted, and never avoided, the public duties which we consider to be incumbent upon a free and generous press; but it does seem a little too much to us to be so often requested to do essential services to parties who do nothing for us. Time, talent, expense, we sought as matter of course by those who never think of affording the slightest support to their supporters. One inference on us the inestimable value of some great principle; another, of some establishment of incalculable interest; and a third, of some invention which is to restore the golden age; and invoke our aid in promoting the success of these designs, of which they are to pocket the fame or the profit, and leave to us the thankless office of having done our utmost to serve them. The Scottish proverb says "Give and Take is a fair game," but with such friends it is all take and no give; and when the building is up, the too common practice is to kick the ladder away. In these observations, however, we allude more particularly to home affairs, the exposure of which would be no credit to those concerned.

But our present business is with foreign affairs; and we are free to confess that our sympathies are more excited by the distresses of our countrymen, whom we see around us suffering so severely, than for any foreigners, however unfortunate their lot. With the condition of the former, and what has caused their prostration, we are conversant; of what has driven the latter to our shores we know little or nothing. We only know that they have come from scenes of strife and blood, and are familiar with plots and crimes. They may be right or they may be wrong; yet, without a wish to circumscribe the limit of philanthropy within even a national circle, we must say, that we should prefer exercising our benevolence till less was needed among ourselves, than expending it upon strangers, whilst multitudes of our own poor

* The following is the latest instance:—"Italian Refugee Fund Committee. Sept. 1st., 1849. Sir.—We are requested by the above-named Committee to transmit you the enclosed circular, and at the same time to state, that the Committee will feel obliged by your giving such publicity to the subject of the address, as the demands upon the columns of your valuable journal will allow.—We are, Sir, yours obediently,
SIDNEY M. HAWKES, } Honorary Secretaries.
JAMES STANFELD, }

Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, London.

were starving before our faces. Be just before ye are generous: look well at home: enough there's to be done; and a hundred other common but pithy maxims read the same lesson; but it seems now that the strongest and most highly-wrought appeals to British charity are promulgated for the succour of classes, who, viewed in whatever light, possess the smallest and most problematical claims upon our commiseration.

We enter into no political argument on the question. Let the bravest of Poles try their fortunes on every theatre of war in Europe, and, if they succeed, enrich themselves with contributions and plunder, or rise into eminent commands; but if they fail, and are defeated, we cannot perceive the slightest reason on earth why the charitable funds of the English people should be diverted from the wants of the English people to provide for these adventurers. The Italians, now adopted, may have been engaged in a more truly patriotic and justifiable cause, and some of them may deserve the pompous and almost fulsome language of the printed sheet before us; but is there a man of common sense in the world who could apply it to the herd? There is no discrimination, nor can there be much in such cases. The refugees from Paris appear to have taken tolerable care of themselves, and not to need subscriptions. The Poles have long had their funds and balls; and the Italian additions, and probably others from different quarters, are likely enough to augment the burdens upon our "national hospitality" to persons "hunted by their and the world's enemies!"

If they are (and we are not aware how many there are) to be supported in idleness, it would be a libel of atrocious absurdity upon our poor-law labour test; and if not, their competition with native industry, in several hardly tolerable and sufficient walks of life, must be a gross outrage upon most deserving fellow-citizens of our own. We are expending large sums to accomplish the emigration of our destitute multitudes; and is this a time to encourage aliens to seek nourishment in the bosom of the exhausted country?

Neither do we think that the morals of England will be improved by the infusion. We have vices enow; and horrid crimes also. But there are others which seem to be more peculiar to foreigners, the results of their different education, feelings, and brutal and bloody contests in which they have been engaged. We have our poisonings for burial-club money, and agrarian outrages for disputes about land; and have little need to swell the calendar with cold-blooded murders of friends or employers, utter atheism and disbelief in a God, Roman assassinations, eccisbeism, and a disregard of every social relation, which, at least, the soundest portion of the British people hold in reverence.

If there be a surplus, let those who are so gifted reply as they think fit to the calls for relief such as we have indicated: for ourselves, whilst within the next three hundred yards around us we can find English men, women, and children, starving; cholera patients perishing from the want of warmth and clothing; and those redeemed from the jaws of death hardly to be saved without nourishing food, far beyond their miserable exhausted means; we must advise the bestowal of Christian charity upon these primary objects of a nation's care.

BIOGRAPHY.

The Bishop of Norwich.—On Thursday the 6th, this distinguished prelate died, near Dingwall, in Scotland, after a short illness terminating in congestion of the brain. His Lordship was seventy years of age. He was possessed of a mind of ceaseless activity, and took a leading part in associated pursuits of literature and science, as was evinced by his zeal in supporting the Archeological Institute, the British Association, and other societies whose objects were to promote the progress of education and diffusion of moral and religious principles. The Bishop was also a warm patron of what might be considered rather the accomplishments and pleasures, than the graver duties of civilization. He was a fine

musical amateur, and in this way an eminent friend and admirer of Jenny Lind. But the salient points of his character were extraordinary quickness and energy; and his appearance in public, with the dark piercing eye and reverend white hair, accompanied by much earnestness of manner when speaking, was very impressive. In private life he was much beloved by those nearest and dearest to him; and in his general intercourse with the world he was (as we have often experienced) most accessible and obliging. It was but the other day that the latest news of the surveying expedition under his able son, Captain Stanley, was communicated partly through his kindness, as had been solely the case on preceding occasions. His Lordship has left a highly-gifted family.

Sir Graves Champney Haughton, F.R.S., an old and valued correspondent of the *Literary Gazette*, died last week at St. Cloud, aged sixty-two. He was learned in Oriental literature, and published an edition of the *Laws of Menu*, with an English translation of the Sanscrit. His researches in philology were most extensive, and had engaged his attention many years; it was upon these inquiries principally that his communications appeared in our pages; to what degree of completeness he had attained we do not yet know, but he must have left MSS. of much general interest among his literary treasures.

MUSIC.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

(From our own Correspondent.)

(Second notice.)

The Messiah, with which the name of Handel is most intimately associated in this country, is the oratorio that bids fair to become quite a national hymn: every part of it is perfectly well known, and almost devoutly entered into by our assemblies. When its sublimest aspirations, such as the chorus "Unto us a child is born," the "Glory to God," and other of the great parts peal forth in their overpowering grandeur, every listener rises, and the crowds are swayed with the deepest emotions. Often and often as we have heard this master-piece, we never felt its intention so much as on this occasion. The solo parts were not given with any superior effect, but it is to the choruses and the pastoral symphony that so much honour is due; nothing could be rendered more beautifully than the symphony, it was a most pathetic and touching strain, such elegant music we never heard discoursed from any band before. The chorus, "Unto us," was finely given, and seemed to owe much of its effect to the command of Mr. Costa. The "piano" of the opening passages was beautifully kept; and the "forte" burst upon the words "Wonderful, counsellor, the mighty God," was superbly grand. The celebrated "Amen chorus" was also, as would be expected, magnificently sung: with regard to the single parts, we could not help perceiving a great want of feeling in the singers, the music was sung correctly enough, but there was a lack of expression. The vocalists were Sontag, the Misses Williams, Mme. Castellani, Miss Hayes, Mr. Sims Reeves, Herr Pischek, and Mr. Machin. The Hall was crowded by an audience of nearly 2500; and the sum accruing from this performance alone was 2488l. 12s.

In the evening the concert opened with the C minor symphony, (Beethoven), the whole of which was played, and in a style rarely approached. The "William Tell" overture was also given with remarkable effect at the close of the first part of the concert. We pass over a mass of tedious and lengthy vocal pieces to speak of the performance of the *Walpurgis Nacht*: of this our reminiscences are anything but agreeable, and we owe the musical committee a lasting grudge, for their cruelty in keeping us from eight o'clock till midnight without one real pabulum, and, moreover, for making us take in no less than fifteen vocal pieces, four of which were long scenes from operas, occupying several columns of libretto. Considering that band, chorus, and soloists were tired out, the *Walpurgis* was well given, but not with the honour to Mendelssohn that it deserves, and from the

Birmingham audience too, for during the whole performance the attention was perpetually distracted by the rustle of silks, the scraping of chairs, the shifting of seats, in one's vain attempts to be left alone, and other concomitant annoyances of the genus irritating. —Thus ended the third and last concert. On Friday morning we had a selection of sacred music, preceded by Mendelssohn's *Ruy Blas* overture, called M.S., lest any one should object to its introducing sacred music, a droll notion, the exact rationale of which we cannot see. The chief vocal pieces were a fragment from a work of Mr. Costa's, "Date sonitum," finely sung by Lablache and chorus; "I cieli immensi" of *Marcello*, by Alboni; "A te fra tanti," from Mozart's *David Penitente*, beautifully sung by Mario; and "On mighty pens," from the *Creation*, exquisitely vocalized by Sontag; the well-known chorus of Haydn, "The heavens are telling," ended the first part. We must not forget to praise Mr. E. Chipp for his excellent playing of one of Mendelssohn's organ sonatas, the one in which Luther's *chorale* is introduced.

The second part was a selection from Handel's *Israel in Egypt*. It is to be regretted that the work was not given entire, as it was in London, under Mr. Costa's able direction; it would have been a more interesting performance, and we could well have dispensed with the selection of the first part. The *Hailstone* chorus was given with terrific power and descriptive effect by the full band and chorus, and was repeated at the command of the President. The effect of the *encore* was marred sadly by the "syffling" of the organ just at the end of the chorus.

This was the last performance of the festival, if we except the ball in the evening, which brings a considerable addition to the funds, and puts those in good humour who may have suffered *ennui* from the severity of the oratorios, or been bored by the length of the evening concerts. The gross receipts have not yet been announced, but including the ball and donations, it is thought they will realise at least 9000l.

The Birmingham festival is certainly, for all in all, the first in rank in the musical world, and possesses quite a European fame; we must, therefore, look upon its management with particular interest, and with a jealous eye for its success. The performances at this hall have been unusually good, so far as execution is concerned—some of them quite unequalled by any that have preceded them; as, for example, that of the *Athaliah*, the *Elijah*, and parts of the *Messiah*. As regards the selection of the music, there is room for improvement, and this especially in the concert department; every concert has been much too long, and the music chosen often not at all adapted for the concert room. Anything more flat and unintelligible than the grand duet from the *Huguenots*, "Oh ciel! dove vai tu," sung without the slightest dramatic effect, can hardly be conceived. Other pieces are open to the same objection. Having got together such an unrivalled band, and such a pianist as Thalberg, we should have heard one of the great works for pianoforte and orchestra on each evening; for the same reasons Sauton should have been heard in one of the great works for his instrument and orchestra. Other arrangements might have been made, better calculated to display the qualities of the extraordinary array of talent assembled, as well as to elevate and encourage the taste of the musical population of Birmingham.*

The Theatre, Birmingham.—It has long been the custom to give an operatic performance here after the Festival, though not at all in connexion with it: on this occasion the opera of *Sonnambula* was given,

* The *Literary Gazette* has long been the opposer of cant. Its readers should know that the attempts to injure the festival, to keep people from going to it, and cast disrepute upon its patrons and performers, have been quite unprecedented in virulence. Clergymen have actually taken the programme into their pulpits, for a text on which to utter their denunciations; and one gentleman got so deep into the matter as to read a letter he had received from Mr. Costa upon the subject. We would ask who commits the greatest desecration, those who sing sacred words in an unconsecrated hall, or those who introduce unsacred matters into a consecrated place of worship?

Alboni singing the part of *Amina* for the first time in this country; Mlle. Corbani was the *Lisa*, Bartolini the *Elvino*, and Tagliafico the *Count Rodolfo*; the chorus was selected from that of Her Majesty's Theatre. Despite all the little drawbacks of a country theatre, and the "sad realities" of all in the shape of scenery, we could not resist going to hear the great contralto in such a part, and we really felt an unsophisticated pleasure in her performance. Her singing of the "Sonia il sen," and the "Ah, non giunge," was very wonderful; the latter was repeated three times ere the crowded and somewhat vociferous audience could be satisfied. Although one cannot forget that Mlle. Alboni is altogether unsuited to the part, and that her singing of the music is not according to the intention of the composer, nor does it give an idea of the *Amina*; yet it is a very gratifying performance, and calls for admiration of the consummate artist who can so much overcome great difficulties.

THE DRAMA.

Haymarket.—The performances of the Adelphi company at this theatre have hitherto been limited to the repertoire of that theatre, but on Monday evening they were varied by the production of a one-act farce, called *A Bird of Passage*. This is a translation of a piece of the same name that has lately been playing in Paris at the Palais Royal theatre, the characters there performed by Grassot and Alcide Tousez falling here into the hands of Wright and Munyard. The piece is slight, but amusing, and shows how much mischief may be done by a busy, impertinent meddler in the short time that he is waiting for the coach at a road-side inn. Matches are broken off, dinners spoiled,—in fact, a whole host of arrangements that, at the rising of the curtain, had just been made to the satisfaction of all the *dramatis personæ*, one by one upset, when, fortunately, just as all are rendered miserable, the coach arrives, and takes away the intruder in time for mutual reconciliations. It will be seen that there is plenty of room in this to create laughter, but the principal part was less effective in the hands of Wright than in those of Grassot, who made it far more amusing by the air of perfect stupidity that he threw over his impertinencies. The piece was loudly applauded.

Astley's.—Mr. Stoeckner's successful hippodramatic spectacle of *The Siege of Mooltan* has run its long career of nearly eighty nights to an end. On Monday the ever-popular piece of *Mazeppa* was reproduced with new scenery, dresses, and appointments; and with almost its original success. A new overture, composed by Mr. Calcott, (by whom the original music was written) was also given, and deserves great praise for its clever adaptation to the circumstances and pageantries of the spectacle. We observe that the bills are "underlined" for the production of a version of the *Prophète*, which seems to us to be peculiarly suited for the resources of Mr. Batty's establishment.

VARIETIES.

The Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.—Mr. E. T. Delafield's bankruptcy accounts clear up the question as to the success of the Royal Italian Opera, they go to prove what we have long asserted, that the patronage bestowed was most liberal, both from the aristocracy of rank and fashion, and from that of taste; at no period before could a second opera have been supported to such an extent, and in no country could an establishment of equal pretensions have been kept up. In the season 1847, it appears the losses incurred by T. F. Beale, the then lessee, and indemnified by Mr. Delafield, were 21,144*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, what the receipts were does not come out; in 1848, the gross receipts were 44,008*l.*; in 1849, the gross receipts were 20,407*l.*; in the two years accounted for the amount received was 73,415*l.* Such was the mismanagement of this income, in the engagement of artists seldom or ever employed, in the exorbitant pay

given to the principal singers, and other careless extravagancies, that the losses incurred in the three seasons amount to 81,355*l.* Out of evil good may come, and so it is thought by those who have at present the intention of opening another campaign next season; and with properly careful management, the sharing system being adopted amongst the principal singers, there can be no doubt of a good amount of patronage from the public, provided the operas continue to be produced in the style for which the house has already earned its well-merited reputation.

Important Jewish MS.—We have been favoured with the inspection of one of the most interesting and important MSS. which has come under the notice of the present age, and perhaps of that of former ages. It is a MS. of Rashi (by many literati called Jarchi, and by others, more correctly, Jitzchaki), on the Prophets and the Hagiographa. But what renders this manuscript most valuable is the large number of deviations from our printed version of Rashi. David Ottensofer, the learned commentator and translator of many books of Scripture and several Rabbinical works, writes to the proprietor of the manuscript:—"1. That the MS. is very old, and was written centuries before the invention of printing. 2. That the same was written either by Rabbi Solomon Jitzchaki, the author himself, or by one of his disciples, which is also testified by the handwriting, which materially differs from the modern." Rashi died in the year 1105, aged about seventy, and both in respect to antiquity and intrinsic value of his writings was justly called רש"י המפורסם (the head of all commentators).—*Jewish Chronicle.*

The Braemar Annual Gathering took place on Thursday week, and was attended by Her Majesty and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred being arrayed in Highland costume, including kilts of the royal Stuart tartan. The three clans who contended (about thirty in each) were the Duff, Farquharson, and that on the estate of the southern Duke of Leeds. Their different tartans had a picturesque effect, and the games and sports were most athletic and animated. We are happy to notice every fresh example of amusements for the people in communion with the noble and wealthy, and, when it may be, with royalty, in its most endearing aspects.

Rotary Engine.—Captain Fitzmaurice, of the 2nd Life Guards, and his brother-in-law, Mr. Hartford, are reported to have invented a rotary engine on so small a scale and complete a principle, that one of a hundred horse power would occupy the space of only four feet by two.

Steam Generator.—A Mr. Wright has patented an improvement on steam-boilers, in which, by the application of cellular vessels both under and within the boiler, the steam is generated at a much less expense and bulk of fuel than as hitherto effected.

M. Jullien in the Provinces.—While the Liverpool and Birmingham performances have been going on, Jullien has been giving his popular concerts in various parts of the provinces. Persiani is the star, and creates great delight by her singing of the admired *morceaux* "Sonia il sen" and "Una voce."

Mr. Macready has been playing *Richelieu* and *Othello* at Worcester, to very crowded houses, during the past fortnight.

British Association.—It is generally understood that after some struggle in the Council, Edinburgh will be proposed for the meeting next year, and Sir David Brewster, most worthily, as a founder and man of pre-eminence in science, the President.

Judge and Prince Albert.—When we noticed the incarceration of Mr. Judge in Reading gaol, we said we were sorry for it, for it is a sad and useless thing to take a man from his family, and shut him up in a prison. But an explanatory letter has since appeared in the *Times*, which makes us desirous to be understood as simply expressing an abstract sorrow, and by no means adopting the opinion that Judge had been the most innocent of Windsor lambs, and most cruelly persecuted. It is gratifying to add, that the Queen has ordered 180*l.* to be given to Mrs. Judge to liberate her misguided husband from his bondage.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Is the press:—*A Topographical and Statistical Survey of Glamorganshire*, by Richard Rees, of Gelligrong; one of those diligent investigations and long experience we ought to have a valuable work.

Lord Cloncurry is stated to have prepared a narrative of the striking events which have occurred in Ireland in his time, &c., from immediately before the Union to the present day. His Lordship's intimacy with the leading actors in these events, and his own share in them, promise an interesting work.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Archbold's (J. T.) Bankrupt Law Consolidation Act, 12mo, boards, 9*s.*
Bland's Algebraical Problems, 9th edit., 8vo, boards, 10*s.* 6*d.*
Child's (L. M.) Biographies of Good Wives, third edition, 12mo, cloth, 3*s.* 6*d.*; cloth, gilt, 4*s.*
Clarke (A.) Portrayed, by J. Everett, vol. 3, 12mo, cl., 5*s.* 6*d.*
Cummings's (Dr.) Sketches, vol. 1, new edition, 12mo, cl., 5*s.*
Glossary of Words used in Teesdale, post 8vo, cloth, 6*s.*
Hunter's (J.) Early History of Founders of New Plymouth, post 8vo, cloth, 2*s.* 6*d.*
James' (A.) Widow Directed, 18mo, cloth, 2*s.* 6*d.*
— (G. P. R.) The Woodman, 3 vols., £1 1*s.* 6*d.*
Kendall's (J.) Manual of Bankruptcy Law, 12mo, bds., 1*s.*
Lehmann's (F.) Practice in German, 12mo, 6*s.*
Livy; Books 1 to 3, new edit., by Rev. A. R. Fausset, 12mo, cl., 3*s.*
Mason's (Dr.) Complete Works, 4 vols., 8vo, cloth, £3 1*s.*
Milton's Poetical Works complete, 12mo, cloth, 3*s.* 6*d.*
National Cyclopaedia, vol. 8, 8vo, cloth, 5*s.*
Ollershaw's (T. C.) Sabbath Labour, 12mo, cloth, 3*s.*
Rome and the Abbey: a Sequel to Geraldine, 12mo, cl., 4*s.*
Smith's (Rev. J.) Bible for Lord's Household, 18mo, cl., 4*s.*
— (J.) Manna in the Wilderness, 18mo, cloth, 4*s.*
Sprague's (J.) Genera of Plants of United States, vol. 2, 8vo, £1 1*s.* 6*d.*
Transactions of Royal Society of Edinburgh, vol. 19, part 1, 4to, £2 2*s.*
Wilson's (Rev. T.) Child's Book of Facts, 18mo, cl., 3*s.* 6*d.*
Wright's (J.) Popular Introduction to the Bible, 12mo, cloth, 2*s.*; sewed, 1*s.* 6*d.*

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.
[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1849.	h. m. s.	1849.	h. m. s.
Sept. 15 . . .	11 55 7	Sept. 19 . . .	11 33 0
16 . . .	54 46 1	20 . . .	33 21
17 . . .	54 25 1	21 . . .	33 15
18 . . .	54 4 1		

Erratum.—In our last, p. 659, middle col., line 4 of *Cherwell* Meeting, the surname Jewitt was accidentally omitted after the Christian name Llewellyn.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ED. J. DENT, by distinct appointments, Watch and Clock Maker to the Queen, H. R. H. Prince Albert, and H. M. the Emperor of Russia, having greatly increased his stock of WATCHES and CLOCKS to meet the purchases made at this season of the year, most respectfully requests from the public an inspection of his various assortments. Ladies' gold watches, with gold dials, and jewelled in four holes, 8*s.* each; gentlemen's dials, enamel dials, 10*s.*; youths' silver watches, 4*s.*; substantial and accurate going silver lever watches, jewelled in four holes, £4. E. J. DENT, 53, Strand; 33, Cockspur Street; and 34, Abchurch Lane (Clock-Tower Area).

HENDRIE'S PATENT PETROLINE SOAP has realized in practice all the promised beneficial effects on excoriations and eruptive affections of the cuticle. The "CONSUMERS PATROLINE SOAP," for the habitual use of the toilet, is found to have an agreeable demulcent influence on the hands, and on the most delicate skin; or in the nursery, for infants. The "PETROLINE SOAP" is peculiarly bland and balsamic, allaying the irritation which the employment of the ordinary alkaline compositions.

A more detergent antiseptic, with additional perfume, named "DISINFECTANT SOAP," is prepared for inveterate cuticular affections of long standing; and, from experience in several public schools, where it has been employed in washing children's heads, it has proved an efficient specific for, and a complete protection against the troublesome complaint known as ringworm.

The Disinfectant Soap, being at a moderate price, is available for all classes, and is used with great success in purifying houses after infectious diseases; indeed, the use of it may, in many cases of typhus and other contagions, be considered a beneficial antiseptic.

H. HENDRIE,

PERFUMER TO HER MAJESTY,
17 AND 13, TICHBORNE STREET, REGENT'S SQUARE.

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